

from Parker, from the cells all the way through the courthouse and outside on the sidewalk. In response to these orders, I washed up most of the blood, assisted some by Jewel Alford.

"I have had the above statement read to me by Special Agent [REDACTED] at my request. It consists of this and four other typewritten pages, and it is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ [REDACTED]

"Witnessed:

"/s/ [REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,

"/s/ [REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,  
Memphis, Tenn."

In addition to the information furnished in the signed statement, [REDACTED] questioned specifically about where he was standing when he observed the 1958 white Chevrolet sedan, described in his statement. He stated he had gone to the southwest window in the lower tier in the cell block and observed the Chevrolet through the branches of a large bush-like tree which grows in the southwest corner of the courthouse. He declared he was able to see the Chevrolet as the leaves on the tree were not full grown at that time. He recalled, however, he was not able to see the entire car, the portion of the automobile from the rear end forward being hidden by the corner of the courthouse. [REDACTED] insisted that the car he saw was a 1958 Chevrolet, four-door sedan, white in color, explaining that he had long been associated with automobiles and has worked as a mechanic in the past.

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED] advised that on Saturday AM, April 25, 1959, [REDACTED] Captain [REDACTED] prisoner in the jail, told him that he had seen some of the men who had come for PARKER. [REDACTED] noted [REDACTED] also a prisoner, commented on [REDACTED] that he had seen one of the men's name slip from

his face, leaving the implication that [REDACTED] had recognized at least one of the men.

[REDACTED] stated that C. J. MONDY, also a prisoner, had lived in the Picayune, Mississippi area all of his life, adding that MONDY also implied to him on April 25, 1959, that he could identify some of the men.

He stated that about a week after PARKER had been taken [REDACTED] brought to [REDACTED] which [REDACTED] thought were the [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] on the night of the abduction. [REDACTED] instructed him to put a glass [REDACTED] on the shoes and instructed him to use a [REDACTED]. In the process of [REDACTED] started he saw two dark stains on [REDACTED] each of which were about the size of a ten-cent coin. He stated that he immediately concluded that the stains were blood and added that in [REDACTED] so apparently eradicated these stains. [REDACTED] however, he advised he exhibited the [REDACTED] to his girl friend, [REDACTED], who was [REDACTED] and stated they discussed the probability that the stains were PARKER's blood.

On May 16, 1959, [REDACTED] stated he was certain that [REDACTED] had a [REDACTED] which was in [REDACTED] by virtue of the fact [REDACTED] took his [REDACTED] in a [REDACTED] with him. [REDACTED] at Poplarville on the night of April 23, 1959. [REDACTED] explained that as a [REDACTED] at Poplarville he was allowed to go downtown and stated that on the night of April 23, 1959, he and [REDACTED] were drinking together and [REDACTED] in a fight, during the course of which [REDACTED] stated he was not positive [REDACTED] was his [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was definitely on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was of the opinion it was [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] stated emphatically that the automobile he had observed parked on the [REDACTED] of the Pearl River County Courthouse on the night of PARKER's

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11 abduction was a 1958 white Chevrolet, four-door sedan.  
12 He stated he was not certain of the exact position in  
13 which this car was parked when he first observed it,  
14 but recalls specifically that he could not see the rear  
15 end of the car which was blocked by the southwest corner  
16 of the courthouse. He stated, however, he got a good  
17 look at it as it left the scene in a westerly direction,  
18 and recalled that when the driver applied the brakes at  
19 the corner of Pearl and Julia Streets he noted the left  
20 rear brakelight flashed, but the right light did not  
21 flash, thus indicating the right brakelight may have  
22 been out.  
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2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also known as [REDACTED] was a prisoner in the Pearl River County Jail at the time of the abduction of PARKER. She was in the white section, or lower floor. Her address is care of [REDACTED]. She was in jail on a charge of removing mortgaged property from the state.

[REDACTED] was interviewed on April 26, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] April 26, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] on April 28, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] on May 12, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] on May 14, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] on May 19, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement:

"April 26, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

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"I [REDACTED] do hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] who I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in connection with an official investigation.

"I [REDACTED] means of [REDACTED] been born [REDACTED] family [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville, Miss., for about 3 months on a charge of removing mortgaged property from the state.

"On Friday night 4/24/59, I went to sleep shortly after 10:30 P.M. I was sleeping soundly when I heard noise about me and someone.

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12 "yelling 'Don't let them kill me,' 'Mondy,  
13 don't let them kill me,' 'Don't let them take  
14 me.' This was repeated three or four times.  
15 I could hear heavy shuffling of feet and  
16 running around. I heard what I would think  
17 was a garbage can fall or tip over.  
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19 "I was lying on my stomach and  
20 raised my head and noticed a man standing on  
21 the landing at the entrance to the cell block,  
22 he had a white or blue handkerchief over his  
23 face and wore white work gloves now in appear-  
24 ance. I believe he had on worn dungarees and  
25 a dark jacket with long sleeves. He had what  
26 I believe was a billed cap on his head.  
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28 "Moments later he reached up and  
29 twisted the light bulb which lies over my cell  
30 and slightly to the left. The only light then  
31 remaining came down from the upper tier.  
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33 "Directly behind the man standing a-  
34 bove on the platform the door to the cell block  
35 stood open - there was a continuous noise of  
36 shuffling like some one was moving around out-  
37 side the door.  
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39 "I was terrified and did not venture  
40 to look at this man but put my head down. In  
41 just a few minutes I noticed there looked up a  
42 number of pairs of legs and hanging down between  
43 these men was a negro whom they were holding by  
44 his arms and legs. He seemed to be struggling  
45 to get away and I heard him say 'I'm going  
46 to take me out to work.' Someone said 'No' and  
47 then the door closed and all was quiet.  
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49 "I saw only a group of legs to my estimate  
50 estimate that they were at least eight or  
51 ten in the group. The pants these men were  
52 wearing seemed also to be dark worn-out  
53 dungarees.  
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"After it had gotten quiet just a few minutes elapsed and then Sheriff Moody appeared along with two or three other persons I did not know. He went immediately up stairs and I heard him ask about the keys and I also recall hearing someone ask C. J. Moody what time it was and he replied 'ten minutes to one.'

"I believe the men that carried the negro out of jail had the keys because I heard someone rattling keys when they were carrying him down the stairs.

"The only man that I got a good look at was the one standing on the landing and I would say that he was of medium build and possibly a little on the heavy side. His finger tips in the gloves seemed to be turned up on the ends.

"This two and a half page statement has been read to me by [redacted] and it is true to the best of my recollection.

" /s/ [redacted]

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"Witnessed by:

[redacted], Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, New Orleans, La.  
[redacted], Spec. Agt., F.B.I., New Orleans, La.

She furnished the following additional information regarding the individual whom she observed standing on the landing inside the jail door:

She described this individual as a white male, approximately 5' 10", 160 pounds, of medium build, wearing tightly drawn bandana type mask, dark colored, having more than one color, all colors unknown.

This individual wore [redacted] gloves with knit wrists and dark trousers of a blue-jean type and a long sleeve shirt or jumper of the same color.

She stated she could not recall whether this individual wore a hat; however, the area of the eyes and forehead were not covered.

She stated that this individual apparently was stationed as a guard or lookout at the jail door inasmuch as he was at this location during the period of the disturbance above.

She advised that she observed this individual from her cell bank and this individual was standing in front of a burning light bulb about 34 feet directly in front of this individual.

[REDACTED] furnished the following additional signed statement:

"Hattiesburg, Miss.  
May 13, 1959

"I, [REDACTED], being sworn, depose and say the following: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have been assigned to solve to as his special agents of the FBI. I know of my right to an attorney and I am making this statement. I know that I do not have to give a statement and that anything I say may be used against me in a court of law. No threats or promises were used to induce this statement.

"I was born [REDACTED]

"I was during the night of May 11, 1959 I was taken to the Pearl River County Jail where I have been incarcerated since January, 1959. I looked up and saw a man standing in the doorway next to my cell. This man is known to me as [REDACTED] last name [REDACTED] believed to be [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] This man runs a [REDACTED] near the [REDACTED] He was wearing



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12 "blue clothing, with a blue and white handker-  
13 chief across his face below his eyes, and white  
14 cotton work gloves. I have seen this man on at  
15 least one day on occasions with [REDACTED]  
16 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
17 in identifying this man. After I noticed Homer,  
18 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of mine  
19 and I plan on carrying came over and put his  
20 hand on my head and held it down so I wouldn't  
21 see any more. He said 'Don't worry, everything's  
22 alright.' However I saw about seven men drag  
23 Parker down the steps. I could not positively  
24 identify any of these men as I could not see  
25 the legs of these men. I am aware that [REDACTED]  
26 normally wears glasses but that he didn't have  
27 them on at this time.

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29 "About three days later I discovered  
30 Parker being taken from the jail with [REDACTED]  
31 [REDACTED] He told me that [REDACTED]  
32 [REDACTED] as being one of the mob that [REDACTED]  
33 from the jail. He told me that [REDACTED] was  
34 ing a black hood and was the man who was carrying  
35 the gun.

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37 "About that same day [REDACTED] once not  
38 recalled, [REDACTED] came into the jail and  
39 set down on the steps leading to the jail and  
40 changed shoes. He put on [REDACTED] which  
41 he had previously left for [REDACTED] and  
42 left the pair he had been wearing with [REDACTED]  
43 to be polished. [REDACTED] set these shoes on a  
44 night stand within arms reach of the cell. As I  
45 sat looking at these shoes I noticed some dark  
46 stains around the sides of these shoes which  
47 appeared to be blood. As I continued to look at  
48 these shoes without saying anything [REDACTED]  
49 apparently noticed that I had observed the stains  
50 on the shoes and he asked me 'What does it look  
51 like.' I said 'It looks like blood.' [REDACTED]  
52 said 'It sure does.' I believe [REDACTED] was  
53 day that [REDACTED] polished the shoes at which time

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"he used a darker stain polish. This stain or polish seemed to make the shoes darker in color than they were originally.

"Sometime after [redacted] had told me that [redacted] as being a member of the gang and took [redacted] from the jail, he told me not to mention anything to anyone regarding the Barker case as these Masonic people stick together.

"I have read the statement consisting of the above and 4 other hand written pages and find it to be true to the best of my knowledge.

" /s/ [redacted]

Witness:

[redacted], Special Agent, F.B.I.,

[redacted], Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, La.

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11 [REDACTED] has advised that [REDACTED]  
12 told her while discussing [REDACTED]  
13 in the PARKER abduction that [REDACTED]  
14 a few days after the incident [REDACTED]  
15 said [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
16 a black hood and carrying a gun. [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED] You're pretty smart. [REDACTED]  
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20 She also stated that she could positively  
21 identify [REDACTED] as one of the men who came into  
22 the cell block for PARKER since she has seen [REDACTED] with  
23 [REDACTED] on a number of occasions. She stated that [REDACTED]  
24 did not have glasses on in the jail to the best of her  
25 recollection nor could she recall seeing a weapon in  
26 [REDACTED] possession. She recalled he was wearing blue  
27 overalls and a dark shirt with long sleeves and white  
28 cotton work gloves. She thought he was handcuffed but  
29 could not recall noticing that one of his fingers was in  
30 a splint.  
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3. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is a white male, [REDACTED] also known as [REDACTED] and is [REDACTED] residing at [REDACTED]. He was a prisoner in the white section of the court room [REDACTED] in the south cell and was being held on a charge of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He is now a prisoner at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 16 and 17, 1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement regarding the abduction of JACK CHARLES PARKER:

"April 25, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

"I, [REDACTED], make the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED], whom I know to be a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I am [REDACTED] old and reside at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] usual job is [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] have been in jail many times since [REDACTED] Jail at Poplarville.

"Early on the morning of [REDACTED] 1959, I was asleep in my cell at [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] tier. I woke up when I heard scuffling and yelling in the upper tier. [REDACTED] someone say, 'Don't kill me, it was bingo.'"

"I got up then and went to the front of the cell to look out. I could see a man standing at the court room door. He had a [REDACTED]

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12 "on which looked like a blue handkerchief with  
13 white figures on it. It was a western style  
14 bandana. He was wearing work clothes including  
15 blue denim pants and khaki shirt. He had no  
16 hat.

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18 "After a little while, I saw four  
19 white men wearing work clothes come down the  
20 stairs dragging a negro man by the feet. Each  
21 one had him by the arm or leg. All of them wore  
22 masks, hats and gloves.

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24 "These men went out the door and then  
25 another man came down who had the jailers keys.  
26 He was a slender man, nearly six feet tall. I  
27 believe he wore blue overalls with a brown or  
28 tan shirt over the top. He also wore a hat, mask,  
29 and gloves. It was a white, western style hat  
30 with rolled edges on the side.

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32 "He turned around as if he was talking  
33 to someone upstairs. He said 'you guys don't say  
34 anything, there is some more of us outside.' His  
35 voice was what I call 'countrified.' He pulled  
36 the court room door shut but I didn't hear him  
37 use the keys.

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39 "In a little while I heard someone yelling  
40 for help out on the south side of the court house  
41 but I couldn't see anyone. I next saw three men  
42 running from in front of the court house who got in  
43 a car parked at the southwest corner of the square.  
44 They drove past the west side of the court house.  
45 I saw a car west from the front of the court  
46 house at a distance of space. I didn't hear any-  
47 thing more. I called upstairs and the man said it  
48 was ten minutes to one.

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50 "I have read the above statement of the  
51 pages and it is true and correct.

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53 " /s/ [REDACTED]  
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"Witness:

[REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, La.

[REDACTED] Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
New Orleans, La. 4-25-59"

[REDACTED] also advised that the first individual observed by him was the one standing at the courtroom door. He advised that this man was approximately 35 to 40 years of age and was white. He was about 5' 7" in height and weighed about 150 pounds and appeared to be of about medium build. [REDACTED] stated that this individual had a mask which was worn just below the eyes and appeared to be a blue bandana handkerchief with some white design on it. Above the mask [REDACTED] could observe that his eyes were about normal width and appearing to be piercing. The man's forehead appeared to be well tanned and there were some pronounced wrinkles on the forehead.

He stated that this individual's hair was brown and combed straight back. The hair was medium thickness with no curl noted and no gray foliage. The hair receded somewhat across the entire front of the head.

[REDACTED] stated this individual was wearing blue denim pants or blue-jeans style and khaki shirt. The shirt had long sleeves and the man did not exhibit his hands for [REDACTED] to see. No weapon was seen on this individual and he wore no hat.

Concerning the second individual seen by him, who carried the jailer's keys, [REDACTED] advised this was a white man who appeared to be about 30 years of age. He was about 6' tall and about 130 pounds in weight. [REDACTED] this man was noticeably thin and also showed his skin. The build of the man was [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] stated this individual was wearing overalls inasmuch as he saw a blue overalls pants leg for carrying small tools. Over the overalls he wore a tan or brown shirt with short sleeves and the shirt was hanging loose like a sport shirt. He wore a very light colored, western style hat. He had a white cloth mask worn up to

his eyes and the hat was pulled down to permit only his eyes to show. This individual carried no weapon.

Concerning the four individuals who carried PARKER out of the jail [redacted] stated these were average size men with nothing recalled specifically about their age, height, or weight. He had the impression that all four wore khaki colored clothes, possibly work clothes or the type that can be made into uniforms. All had long sleeves and none of the shirts showed any type of insignia or decoration. All wore hats of some kind and possibly some of the hats were western style.

[redacted] stated he recalled that one of these four had a sack or hood of some kind over his entire head while the others had masks which may have been made out of large handkerchiefs. Colors of the masks or hood were not recalled by him. All four wore plain white gloves.

Concerning the car which was observed to be parked at the southwest corner of the square, [redacted] stated it was parked in front of the law office of [redacted] and Morse. It was parked on the west side of the street and was headed north. After the three men got in they drove off north and passed the west side of the courthouse. He described the car as a 1958 Ford Custom sedan, probably four-door. He said the car had a dark blue top, light blue center, and dark blue bottom. No special equipment of any kind was observed. [redacted] stated he observed this car while it was both standing and running and was quite positive that he was correct in the make and model.

Concerning the second car driven by him to come south of the courthouse and proceed directly west at a high rate of speed, he stated he got the impression the car was a fairly late model, probably about 1957, and that it looked like a [redacted] over orange or possibly cream over red. [redacted] could not tell from the lines of the car what make it was but got the impression from the acceleration that it might have been a Dodge. He stated he could not observe the occupants in this car.



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[REDACTED] furnished the following additional description of the individuals he observed at the jail and the automobiles he observed from the window of the jail:

[REDACTED] described an individual whom he believed was a leader of unknown subjects as approximately 6' to 6' 2", bean-pole build, wearing overalls or blue dungarees with a light tan or dirty white shirt. He advised that the shirt tails were worn outside the trousers and the shirt tails were caught out. He believed the shirt had long sleeves as he does not recall bare forearms. He stated that he believes this individual was wearing a mask consisting of a brown paper bag with eye holes. He advised this individual was wearing a semi-western type white hat, brim at the sides being rolled up.

He stated that this individual was the last person to leave the jail and just prior to leaving, stood on the second step above the landing and addressed the Negro prisoners by saying, "You all be quiet now. There is plenty more outside." He described this person as having a "countryified voice" with a "long drawl" and believes this individual spoke similar to a native of south central Mississippi.

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[REDACTED] described another unknown subject as a man who held the jail keys and described this individual as a white male, 5' 7" or 5' 8", 160 to 185 pounds, medium build, wearing a blue bandana handkerchief over his face below the eyes. He stated this individual was wearing a khaki work shirt and blue jeans pants. He advised that this individual was not wearing a hat and noted this individual had brown straight hair combed straight back. [REDACTED] hat hairline receded at the sides of the forehead and was [REDACTED] at the center of the forehead.

[REDACTED] stated he also observed two individuals who were dragging a Negro down the steps from the top tier to the jail door. He stated these individuals were masked with handkerchiefs, possibly white in color, and were wearing khaki work clothes. [REDACTED] believes these individuals were wearing light colored semi-western hats.

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12 [redacted] stated he observed only six unknown  
13 subjects and believes only six came into the jail.  
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15 Regarding automobiles which he observed  
16 at the intersection of Julia and Pearl Streets shortly  
17 after unknown subjects left the jail, [redacted] stated he  
18 noted three individuals, believed wearing casual clothes,  
19 running from the area of the jail toward a 1958 Ford  
20 Fairlane, dark blue top, light blue sides, and dark blue  
21 bottom, which was parked on Julia Street directly in  
22 front of Morse and Morse Lawyers' Office. He stated he  
23 noted a figure seated behind the steering wheel.  
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25 He advised that as these individuals neared  
26 the Ford, he noted a red and white, or possibly orange and  
27 white, automobile traveling in a westerly direction on  
28 Pearl Street across the intersection. He stated he  
29 believes the model of this car would be between 1955 and  
30 1958, but he could not recognize the make. He stated that  
31 after the red and white car passed through the inter-  
32 section, the Ford started off in a northerly direction  
33 on Julia Street, crossing the intersection of Pearl.  
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35 [redacted] advised that the street light  
36 located on the southeast corner of the intersection of  
37 Julia and Pearl Streets was burning.  
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39 Upon interview at [redacted] the  
40 Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi, [redacted] furnished  
41 the following additional signed statement:  
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43 [redacted]  
44 May 10, 1959  
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46 "I, [redacted], make the following  
47 voluntary statement to [redacted]  
48 both of whom I believe are Special Agents of the FBI. No threats,  
49 promises or any offers of reward have been made to  
50 me to induce me to make this statement.  
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52 "On April 24, 1959 I was confined in  
53 the Pearl River County Jail at Oshtemo, Miss.  
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12 "Some time around midnight of April 24,  
13 1959 I woke up in my cell in the jail & heard  
14 someone hollering for help & don't kill me. The  
15 yelling was coming from upstairs. I got out of  
16 my bunk & saw a man in the doorway that goes into  
17 the court room. This man had on a long sleeved  
18 khaki shirt, blue jeans & wore a blue bandana  
19 handkerchief, as a mask. I didn't notice his  
20 hands & couldn't see the lower part of his legs,  
21 because I was locked in the south cell in the white  
22 section of the jail.

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24 "When I saw this man & the noise of  
25 fighting continued I figured it was a lynching  
26 party for Parker.

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28 "The next thing I saw was a colored man  
29 being brought down the steps from the colored section  
30 of the jail. Four men were carrying him. One man  
31 had each leg & one man had each arm. I could not see  
32 any skin on any of the men that were carrying him.

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34 "I could see the two men on my side both  
35 had on khaki uniforms, long sleeved khaki shirts &  
36 khaki pants. Each had on a mask, one was a dirty  
37 white, the other a light tan or brown. I couldn't  
38 see anything but the hats on the two men on the  
39 other side. All four men had on western style,  
40 white, straw hats with the edge of the brim curled  
41 up.

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43 "The man who had his arm and leg on my  
44 side was about medium build about 5' 8" and about  
45 150 lbs. The man who had his leg and arm about the same  
46 size. I could not tell anything else about them.

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48 "The man in the court room was close  
49 to 6' tall & about 180 lbs and had dark hair. He had  
50 dark brown hair, combed straight back and it was  
51 higher than usual in the temples and came to a  
52 point in the middle. He was possibly 40 years of  
53 age -- He had a good sunken face, the nose up.

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12 "There was a sixth man who was behind  
13 the four men carrying the colored man. He was  
14 about 6' tall, slim build, weighing about 150 to  
15 160#, bean pole built. He had on either overalls  
16 or blue jeans with a tan sport shirt worn on the  
17 outside. I don't remember whether it had long  
18 sleeves. He had on a white, straw, western type  
19 hat with small holes in it. When he got about  
20 halfway down the steps, he turned around and said  
21 to the prisoners upstairs, something like you fellows  
22 be quiet, there's some more of us outside. He had  
23 a country accent and I immediately thought I recog-  
24 nized him from his voice and general build. I  
25 thought it was [redacted] who lives outside  
26 [redacted] have  
27 known [redacted] since [redacted] and [redacted]  
28 [redacted] with him in the same [redacted]  
29 [redacted] another prisoner & [redacted]  
30 that I thought it was [redacted]  
31 thought was [redacted] had the keys to the jail in his  
32 right hand.

33  
34 "I did not recognize any of the other men  
35 but I believe that [redacted] put on a mask and  
36 spoke I could identify him because I don't know  
37 anyone else that has a voice like his.

38  
39 "After they left the jail I looked out  
40 of the south window of my cell & heard Parker yell  
41 for help twice. I saw 3 men dressed in khaki pants  
42 & white hats like the ones inside run from the  
43 direction of the court house to a 1957 Ford, dark  
44 blue on bottom, light blue in the middle & dark  
45 [redacted]. The Ford was parked in front of the  
46 lawyer's office, [redacted] & [redacted], facing north. I  
47 saw another car [redacted] the [redacted] [redacted] straight  
48 west, but I couldn't identify it. The [redacted] [redacted]  
49 off going north. The car that went west was [redacted]  
50 white or orange & white but I don't know what kind  
51 it was.

52  
53 "After I saw these cars leave one of  
54 the other prisoners asked what time it was & the  
55 [redacted]  
56 [redacted]  
57 [redacted]  
58 [redacted]  
59 [redacted]  
60 [redacted]  
61 [redacted]  
62 [redacted]

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12 "someone else said it was ten minutes to one.  
13 I went back to sleep after that & knew nothing  
14 more about the incident.  
15

16 "I have read this statement of five  
17 pages and it is true.  
18

19 " /s/ [REDACTED]  
20

21 "Witness:  
22

23 [REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
24

25 [REDACTED], Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
26 Memphis, Tenn.  
27

28 [REDACTED] when shown a group of pictures  
29 which included the photograph of J. F. LEE, JR., held a  
30 card over the lower part of LEE's face and stated that  
31 the hair and eyes looked like that of the man who stood  
32 in the courtroom doorway but said he could not make a  
33 positive identification. He said that he did not recog-  
34 nize JEWEL ALFORD as being one of the men who participated  
35 in the abduction.  
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4. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] of age and  
resides with his [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Mississippi. He was released from  
the Pearl River County Jail on April 25, 1959, after  
serving a sentence of fourteen days for issuing a worth-  
less check.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA's  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on April 29,  
1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed  
statement:

"April 25, 1959  
Picayune, Miss.

"I, [REDACTED] do hereby make  
the following free and voluntary statement to  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who I  
know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau  
of Investigation in connection with an official  
investigation.

"I am [REDACTED] years of age having been  
born at [REDACTED] Miss., on [REDACTED] I reside  
principally [REDACTED] in Picayune, Miss.  
On the morning of 4/25/59 I was released at  
about 9:00 AM having been in jail about 14 days  
for issuing a worthless check.

"On the night of 4/24/59 I was locked  
in my cell located on the white tier of the  
Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville. The  
cell I was in along with [REDACTED] is located  
in the Southwest corner of the building. I went  
to sleep about 9:30 or 10:00 PM. I was awakened  
sometime later by a loud series of noises and  
shuffling about including a trash can banging



"and a glass breaking. I heard someone screaming 'don't let them take me out of here, don't let them kill me,' at least five or six times.

"At that time I looked up and saw [REDACTED] was standing just outside my cell and looking toward the platform leading out of the cell block. I noticed as I looked that way that there was a man standing in the landing with a hat on, wearing dark clothes, a dark face mask and wearing white or light grey gloves. As I looked at him he reached up and turned out a light which hangs over the landing and lights the lower tier at night. b7c

"Seconds later I saw about four or possibly five men on the landing or passway down the stairs carrying what appeared to be a man. On the landing someone said something about 'let me walk' and someone else said 'no.' They had been carrying this body by the arms and legs with a man at each arm and leg. At that moment one of the men struck at the body with a club about three or four times.

"I then heard a voice to the effect 'there's a crowd of people gathering outside.' The men then carried the body out, the door closed and I heard the door locked.

"There was just a faint light over head from the upper tier and I can say these unknown men appeared to be masked, wearing gloves and had dark clothing on them.

"Within several minutes I heard someone running, and heard someone yell 'help, help.' I looked out the window and at that time saw a red metallic Dodge about a 1957 model. This car was moving terribly fast and headed directly west away from the side of the Court House. At the same time a light green over a dark green Ford with a gold stripe along the

"side drove away from the Southwest corner of the intersection traveling in northerly direction.

"Within about ten minutes Sheriff Moody appeared on the scene with some other men I did not see. At about that same time [redacted] yelled upstairs to C. J. Moody who had a watch and asked him what time it was. Moody replied ten minutes to one.

"I know none of the men involved nor am I able to provide any more information concerning this matter.

"I have read this two and a quarter page statement and it is true to the best of my recollection.

" /s/ [redacted]

"Witnessed by:

[redacted], Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, New Orleans, Louisiana  
[redacted] Special Agent, F.B.I., New Orleans, La., 4/25/59

[redacted] has advised that he could furnish no further description of the unknown subjects. He stated that after the abductors left the jail with [redacted] he heard two calls for help coming from the vicinity of the south entrance of the jail. He advised that a [redacted] was stopped by two popping sounds, somewhat similar to a shotgun, by hitting something hard with a stick. He stated that shortly thereafter, he heard individuals running but did not observe them.

He stated that just after [redacted] was running, he got a glimpse of a red and white car traveling in a westerly direction on Pearl Street, across the intersection of Julia Street. He stated that this car was accelerating rapidly. He stated he believes this car was a 1957 Dodge, losing his opinion on what it

believes was the swept-wing style of the car. [REDACTED] stated that after the red and white car passed, a 1950 two-tone green Ford Fairlane with gold stripes on side, which had been parked on Julia Street in front of the lawyer's office, started off in a northerly direction. He stated that he heard a metallic bang as the Ford proceeded over dips in the intersection, indicating that the bumper of the Ford may have struck the pavement at the dips.

[REDACTED] further advised that he is of the opinion that a county or city emblem or tag was attached to the front bumper of the Ford in the place used for license, but that he did not observe what county or city this tag represented.

[REDACTED] advised that the street light on the southeast corner of the intersection of Julia and Pearl Streets was burning.

b7c  
b7D

5. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] b7c  
Mississippi, and is employed as [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] He was a prisoner in the [REDACTED] section,  
upper tier, of the Pearl River County Jail.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 24, 1959; by SA's  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 23,  
1959; and by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 15,  
1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed  
statement:

"April 26, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

"I, [REDACTED], make the following  
voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and  
[REDACTED] whom I know to be special  
agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I am about [REDACTED] years old and  
reside at [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
the [REDACTED] I have been confined in the Pearl  
River County Jail at Poplarville.

"A little after midnight of April 24,  
1959, or the early morning of April 25, 1959, I  
was asleep in my bunk. I was in the cell at the  
[REDACTED] of the tier. G. J. Conroy, another  
prisoner, woke me up and I sat at the edge of  
my bunk. I saw one man standing at the door to  
M. C. Parker's cell at the north end of the tier.  
I don't know who opened the cell door but I saw  
this man go in where Parker was. I couldn't  
hear anything but Parker yelling. I didn't see  
anyone else go in Parker's cell and I didn't  
while Parker came running over to my cell.

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12 "He sat down on one of the bunks, I saw  
13 he was bleeding around the face. The man I had  
14 first seen came over to us. He was a heavy set  
15 man in work clothes with some kind of mask over  
16 his whole face. This was a black mask with no  
17 eye holes. This man carried a short stick about  
18 the size of a mop handle.

19  
20 "A second man came in my cell, probably  
21 coming from the hallway. He was also a heavy set  
22 man with work clothes. He had a mask up to his  
23 eyes. It was a dark cloth of some kind. He had  
24 a short piece of rope with no knots showing. This  
25 looked like half inch rope to me.

26  
27 "A third man came in who had been stand-  
28 ing in the doorway to the cell block. He was a  
29 heavy set man in work clothes probably khaki color.  
30 He had his whole face covered with a mask that had  
31 eye holes. It was a dark color. He wore a hat  
32 of dark color and it looked like a felt hat. I  
33 saw no weapon of any kind in his hands.

34  
35 "After the man with the club hit Parker  
36 a time or two, all three of the men grabbed him  
37 by the feet and dragged him out of my cell. The  
38 same three men had Parker by the feet the last  
39 time I saw them and they were just outside the  
40 cell. I went back to my bunk and sat down and  
41 didn't see any of them again.

42  
43 "I didn't hear any conversation at any  
44 time by any of these three men. I didn't ever see  
45 any of them else in the cell block. Right away I heard  
46 the door to the court room shut.

47  
48 "I stayed in my cell and I sat down  
49 at the windows. In a little while I saw some  
50 cars start up but couldn't tell where they were  
51 going.

52  
53 "I have read statement of [redacted] and  
54 is correct to my knowledge.  
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" /s/ [REDACTED]

"Witness:

[REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, La.

[REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, La."

[REDACTED] related that the first individual seen by him was a man about 5' 6", 180 pounds, with a stocky build. The second man who had come from the vicinity of the hallway was a larger man about 5' 11" and weighing between 180 and 190 pounds. He appeared to have some hair showing which [REDACTED] recalled to be sandy colored and quite long. His recollection was that this individual may have worn blue jeans.

b7c  
b7d

The third individual standing in the doorway of the cell block was stocky in appearance, 5' 6", and weighing about 180 pounds. [REDACTED] related that from sleepiness and fright, he took no great pains to observe more than necessary. He related that all individuals wore socks and gloves.



6. CHARLIE JAMES MONDY

CHARLIE JAMES MONDY is 25 years of age and is from Picayune, Mississippi. He is usually occupied as a laborer. He is now residing care of his sister [REDACTED] b7c

MONDY was a prisoner in the upper tier (colored section) of the Pearl River County Jail and was being held on a murder charge.

MONDY was interviewed by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA [REDACTED] on May 12, 1959; and by [REDACTED] on May 19, 1959. b7c

CHARLIE JAMES MONDY furnished the following signed statement:

"April 25, 1959  
Poplarville, Miss.

"I, Charlie James Mondy, make the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] whom I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. b7c

"I am 25 years of age and reside in [REDACTED], Miss. My usual employment is as a laborer at [REDACTED] Co.

"Since November, 1958, I have been in custody in the Pearl River County Jail in Poplarville. On the evening of April 24, 1959, I was playing cards in the prison bull pen with several other prisoners. There were four of us in the bull pen. W. D. Parker, another prisoner, was locked in the private part of the tier. In the tier downstairs there were 4-500 prisoners.

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12 "We played cards until after midnight.  
13 A little after midnight I talked to Parker while  
14 he was in his bunk. [REDACTED] was also awake  
15 but he was in his bunk. The other 3 on our tier  
16 were in their bunks and possibly asleep. b7c

17  
18 "At about 12:30 AM on April 25, 1959,  
19 I heard someone come to the courthouse door lead-  
20 ing to the cell block. I heard some low voices  
21 and someone was using a key to open the door. At  
22 that time we thought it was the jailer bringing  
23 in a prisoner.

24  
25 "When the door opened the first man who  
26 came in had a black cloth tied over his face with  
27 only his eyes showing over it. This man turned  
28 to the right which would have been downstairs to  
29 the white prisoners but the next man who came in  
30 after him stopped him and told him "this way"  
31 indicating upstairs to our tier.

32  
33 "This first man had a bunch of keys on  
34 a ring and went to the first cell door upstairs.  
35 He tried several keys before he found the right  
36 one. While he tried to open the door, about ten  
37 men in all came in through the courthouse door  
38 and waited on the stairs. They all had coverings  
39 on their faces. Some had women's stockings pulled  
40 over the lower part of their faces. Some of these  
41 coverings may have been handkerchiefs and there  
42 were different colors, both white and black. I  
43 believe that each man had a cap or hat. Some of  
44 the caps or hats looked new. The shoes were like  
45 work clothes. Every man I saw had cloth gloves  
46 on. The gloves looked new and were solid colors,  
47 either white or brown. These were what I call  
48 work gloves.

49  
50 "All of the men were work clothes in-  
51 cluding blue jeans, khakis and other cotton pants.  
52 A part of them had jackets and jumpers on.

53  
54 "Most of the men had chains of various  
55 kinds. They looked like they had picked up

"different pieces of wood. The clubs were about 2 feet long and a little bigger than a broom handle.

"When they got the cell door open, about ten men came in where we were. I noticed maybe two more, dressed like the others, who stood in the courtroom door.

"After the men got up the stairs, I saw that one of them had a gun, probably in his right hand. It looked like a short barrel gun, probably a 38. It had a dark finish and was a revolver. This man was wearing a black cowboy hat, a dark mask and blue jeans. He spoke to [redacted] in his bunk, saying 'Boy, where is M. C. Parker?' [redacted] told him Parker was over in his cell, probably asleep. b7c

"All of the men started over to where the bunk is located in the northwest corner of the tier. This was my bunk and I was over near [redacted] at the time. When they saw the bunk was empty they came back and asked again where Parker was. I don't remember exactly what was said, but I pointed to the cell where Parker was locked in the north west corner of the tier. The men who talked to me went to the cell door and started shaking it. He asked me, 'how do you get in this door, boy.' I showed them where the control box was in the hall. b7c

"The men with the keys started trying keys again and got the right one about the third time. When he got the box unlocked, he worked the lever to open Parker's cell. This was a medium size man about my size, maybe 5' 8 or 9" tall and medium weight. I don't remember what kind of clothes he wore.

"The man who asked me how to get to Parker's cell was waiting at the door when it opened. He had a stick. He was short, heavy,

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13 "set man. When the door opened he was the first  
14 man in. Parker took a swing at him with a foot  
15 tub and this man jumped back out of the cell.  
16 After he jumped back, he said 'Come on in with  
17 the gun.' He kept asking the man with the gun to  
18 shoot him. A number of the men with clubs went  
19 in the cell, and I saw a few of the men pick up  
20 brooms to use as clubs.

21  
22 "Maybe about 4 or 5 of the men started  
23 beating on Parker. He yelled and tried to fight  
24 back, and broke away and ran over to where I was  
25 sitting at the south end of the tier. About the  
26 same ones came after him again and one of them  
27 picked up a garbage can and threw it and hit  
28 Parker.

29  
30 "The rest of us started moving away  
31 from the south end of the tier and then we got  
32 to the hall door. The man with gun is standing  
33 there. He said 'Stand right here and don't move.'

34  
35 "Some of the others continued to beat  
36 on Parker and he was getting weaker. Whenever he  
37 moved they would hit him again.

38  
39 "When Parker stopped fighting back, they  
40 started to drag him out of the cell block. I  
41 heard someone say 'pull him on out.' Several of the  
42 men grabbed Parker by the feet and started dragging  
43 him out. He was trying to hang on to various ob-  
44 jects and he was also calling for help. He was  
45 pulled down the steps and out the door. He wanted  
46 to get away but they kept dragging him.

47  
48 "All of the men except the one with the  
49 gun had gone out the courtroom door. The man with  
50 the gun went back up the steps with the keys and locked the cell block  
51 door. He had no trouble finding the right key to  
52 lock the door. He spoke to us and said 'Look, I  
53 don't want a word out of you all because there are  
54 plenty more outside waiting.' He went out the court-  
55 room door and shut it.

"I went to the south window because I could hear Parker yelling at the south side of the court house. I saw maybe three people standing at the west side of the court house. I saw another man come running from the south side of the court house and go past the west side. About this time I got back from the window and didn't look again.

"I heard several cars start off with a roar but I couldn't estimate which way they went. This was about 15 or 20 minutes from the time the men entered the cell.

"I have read this statement of six pages and it is true to the best of my recollection.

" /s/ C. J. Ready

"Witness:

[REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,

[REDACTED] Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
New Orleans, La., 4-25-59" b7c

Concerning the first individual seen by him carrying the jailer's keys, MONDY furnished the following physical description: white male, 28 - 29 years of age, 5' 9" to 5' 10", 160 pounds, with a local accent.

Concerning the clothing worn by this individual, MONDY stated he was wearing work clothes, color not recalled but probably blue jeans and was having a new appearance. He stated that he saw no sign of any type of watch. He stated this first man had a blindfold over his eyes and a hat pulled down so that only his nose showed.

Concerning the second individual, who carried the gun, MONDY furnished the following physical description: white male in his early 30's, 5' 11", 210 pounds; with stout, muscular build.

Regarding his clothing, MONDY stated the individual wore blue jeans and had a black, wide-brim.

western style hat. He stated that neither the hat nor the other clothing appeared to be new. This individual had no holster.

Regarding the third individual observed by him, who was the first one to enter PARKER's cell, MONDY furnished the following physical description: white male, age 30, 5' 6", 175 pounds, stout build with slight appearance of being fat.

MONDY stated that this individual wore a handkerchief as a neck and was recalled to be wearing faded blue jeans. He stated he could not recall anything further regarding the clothing worn by this individual.

MONDY furnished the following additional descriptive data concerning the individuals who came into the jail and the automobiles seen from the jail after the abduction:

MONDY described the individual who possessed the jail keys as being 5' 9", 160 pounds, wearing a black, but possibly red, handkerchief over his nose covering the area over the face below the eyes. He stated he believes this individual was wearing either blue or khaki clothes. He advised that this is the individual who came in and started down the steps and then went back when another individual said "Up here." He stated that this individual asked [redacted] where PARKER's cell was and is also the individual who used a key to open the metal box which contains levers which released the cell doors. He advised that this individual did most of the talking for the group. b7c

MONDY advised that the individual who is [redacted] prior to entering the cell was taller than the [redacted] and would weigh approximately 175 pounds. He advised that this individual was wearing faded blue jeans and blue jacket.

MONDY described another individual as being a man who possessed a .38 caliber blue steel revolver, [redacted] being approximately 5' 10" to 5' 11", 160 pounds, wearing new looking blue jeans and old blue jacket. He stated this



individual had a coil of rope about 5/8" in diameter in his right pocket. He stated that this coil of rope appeared to be new and that it was light colored. He advised that he later observed this individual carried a two-foot length of rope approximately 1/2" in diameter. He stated he believes that this individual was wearing a red handkerchief or a mask.

MONDY could furnish no complete descriptions of other individuals, but recalled one individual with a mask consisting of a stocking cap pulled over his face. This mask was light tan cloth and had eye slits. He stated that this individual was also wearing a hat and was one of the several individuals who went into PARKER's cell and scuffled with PARKER. He described this individual as being of medium build, being neither tall nor short.

MONDY further stated that he believes nine or ten men came into the jail, all wore masks, and all wore gloves, the gloves being both white and brown cotton work gloves.

After these individuals removed PARKER from the jail, he advised he noted two automobiles leave the area of the intersection at the southeast corner of the courthouse. He stated that a red and white 1957 Oldsmobile "88" proceeded west on Pearl Street through the intersection of Julia. He advised that he noted a 1958 Ford two-tone blue dark top and bottom with light blue sides parked in front of the law office on Julia. He advised that after the Oldsmobile passed the intersection, the Ford started off in a northerly direction on Julia Street.

MONDY furnished the following additional signed statement:

New Orleans, La.  
May 12, 1961.

"I, Charlie James Mondy, make the following voluntary statement to [redacted] and [redacted] who are [redacted] b2c

"be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I was born November 18, 1933, in Jeff Davis County, Miss. I presently reside at 3117 Laurel Place in New Orleans.

"While I was confined in the Pearl River County Jail in Poplarville, Miss., I saw a gang of men abduct M. C. Parker early on the morning of April 25, 1959. Within about 30 minutes after the gang left, Sheriff Woody and a strange man came in the jail and the Sheriff came part way up the stairs to our tier. He looked around the tier and over towards Parker's cell. He asked the group of us, 'Did they get the right one?' I answered 'Yes sir, I guess so. They got Parker.' The Sheriff asked what happened to the keys and we couldn't tell him. He tried our tier door and found it was locked. He then left the jail.

"The other prisoners in our tier were

All of them heard the Sheriff say this.

"I read this statement and it is true to the best of my knowledge.

" /s/ C. J. Wendy

"Witnesses:

Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, La.

Special Agent, FBI,

WONDER stated that the conversation with the Sheriff was white, stout build, about 40 years of age. He could not describe him further or recall what type of clothing was worn.

WONDER stated ALFORD came to the jail on April 24, 1959, at about 7:00 PM and was alone at the time.

MONDY could recall. ALFORD did not return again until after PARKER's abduction. He stated positively that he never saw ALFORD or anyone else give the jail keys to anyone MONDY believed might have a connection with the abduction. He said he knew there was a rumor going around that probably the jailer gave the keys to the gang, but stated he had no information whatever to support such an allegation.

Regarding security of the jail keys as observed by him during his incarceration, MONDY stated that usually ALFORD unlocked the jail door and came in with any visitors. MONDY recalled seeing one individual who occasionally let himself in with the keys to bring meals to the prisoners. This man is a business partner of ALFORD in the operation of a body shop or garage in Poplarville. MONDY could not recall that this individual ever came in by himself while PARKER was incarcerated.

He said he has no fear of telling anything he might know, but that he cannot identify any member of the gang who came in the jail to take PARKER and knows of no action or failure of action on the part of Sheriff [redacted] or any member of his department which helped set up the abduction.

MONDY has been shown pictures of individuals possibly implicated in this case and has identified from photographs JAMES ALFORD and [redacted] and [redacted] being [redacted] times [redacted] stated that in no way could he identify [redacted] as being among the mob which entered the jail to rescue PARKER.

b7c

2. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] is [REDACTED] years of age and  
resides at [REDACTED] Mississippi. [REDACTED]  
was a prisoner in the upper [REDACTED] section of the  
Pearl River County Jail and is presently incarcerated at  
the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, Mississippi.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] on April 26, 1959;  
by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on  
April 28, 1959; and by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
on May 16 and 17, 1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following  
signed statement:

"Poplarville, Miss.  
April 25, 1959

"I, [REDACTED] make the following  
statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] who have identified themselves to me as  
Special Agents of the F.B.I. This statement is  
given freely without any threats or promises and I  
have been told it might be used in court.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] residence is [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
of April 24, 1959. [REDACTED] prisoner in the  
Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville, Miss. At  
about 11:30 p.m. on April 25, 1959, I was sitting  
on my bunk upstairs in the jail house. I heard a  
noise at the wooden door that leads from the Court  
House into the jail and it sounded like [REDACTED]  
was trying to open the door from the other side  
with a key. It seemed like whoever was trying to  
open the door tried two or three times before the  
door finally opened. A man came in and several  
more men followed him into the front part of the  
jail. Some of the men started toward the cells on

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12 "the bottom floor but the man who came in first  
13 said 'it's this way' and came up the stairs to the  
14 second floor where I was. The man who was through  
15 the door first asked me 'Where is E. G. Parker?'  
16 I told him he was in the other cell - the one on the  
17 north side. He went on down to that cell and another  
18 man along with him and two or three others asked  
19 'How do you get in there?' The man who asked that I  
20 noticed had a set of jail keys in his hand. Monday,  
21 one of the prisoners told him he had to unlock the  
22 box on the outside of the cell before he could get  
23 in. The man with the keys then put a key in the box  
24 and unlocked the box the first time he tried. He  
25 then worked the lever and Parker's cell door came  
26 open. He worked the right lever the first time.  
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28 "When the cell door came open the man  
29 who had come in the jail first, who had a stick or  
30 club in his hand, went into Parker's cell. Several  
31 more men went in right behind him. Another man  
32 handed a gun to the one with the keys and he then  
33 stood at the cell door with the gun. The one with  
34 the club ran over to Parker and started hitting him  
35 with the club. Some more of the men started hitting  
36 him with three brooms they had picked up in the jail.  
37 Parker broke loose and ran into the other cell and  
38 lay on a bunk. The men followed him in and started  
39 beating him again with the club and the brooms. He  
40 grabbed the club and got it away from the man who  
41 had it. He started hitting at the men with the club  
42 but I could not tell if he hit anybody, hard enough  
43 to hurt. During this beating Parker screamed three  
44 or four times very loud calling for help.  
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46 "The men finally beat Parker down and  
47 caught him by the feet and dragged him out of the  
48 cell and toward the stairs. As they were going as  
49 he went by and they beat and kicked him down and  
50 dragged him on downstairs. At the door Parker  
51 asked the men to let him walk. They would not  
52 do this and dragged him through the door into the  
53 Court House. The man with the keys and gun then  
54 closed and locked the door.  
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12 "A minute or two later I heard Parker  
13 cry for help from the yard at the south side of  
14 the Court House. He called for help twice loud  
15 enough to be heard for some distance. I then  
16 heard a car start. It was a V-8 which was quiet  
17 and sounded like it was in good shape. This car  
18 took off fast and went straight west. I heard  
19 at least two other cars start then and leave but  
20 I could not tell anything about how they went.  
21 One of the other cars was a V-8 and the other a  
22 6.

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24 "I don't believe I can identify any of  
25 these men if I saw them again. However, I  
26 noticed some of them closely and believe there  
27 were about ten in all.

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29 "The man with the club who was the first  
30 one in the jail was a white man wearing a white  
31 stocking over his face with eye holes cut in it.  
32 He was about five feet eleven, weighed about 160  
33 or 190, wore a blue overalls jumper and blue jeans  
34 which were old and faded. He had on a khaki shirt  
35 and wore brown cloth gloves. His eyes were  
36 sandy colored and he was hurrying the others and  
37 used the expression 'make haste' at least once.

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39 "The club this man carried was round  
40 and well finished and was made of wood that had  
41 a yellow color. It was about 2 feet long and the  
42 big end was about the size of a pool cue. It  
43 tapered smaller at the other end and looked like  
44 a policeman's stick.

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46 "The man with the club was white and  
47 wore a piece of black cloth over his eyes from  
48 his forehead down. It did not have any holes in  
49 it and must have been thin enough to see through.  
50 It was tied at the back of his head. He was  
51 wearing an old light colored felt hat which was  
52 dirty. Had on blue overalls jumper which had  
53 been worn but was not faded. Wore a pair of



"brown cotton gloves and the skin above the gloves and at the back of neck was sunburned. His voice was deep and rough and did not sound like educated men. This man was short, about five feet six, was heavy built and looked like he weighed about 180 or 185. His stomach was moderately large and from actions, voice, and appearance estimate age as 30 to 40. Gun which he was handed appeared a .38 blue steel snub nose with heavy frame.

"One of the men I noticed appeared to be young. He had a white handkerchief over his face, wore a cap believed khaki, had on old khaki work clothes, appeared in early 20s, was about 5 feet 4 inches, and weighed about 135 pounds.

"Another man I noticed was the man who handed the gun to the man with keys. He was in his 30s, wore a red bandana handkerchief over his face, was bareheaded and had long sandy hair combed straight back. He was about the size of the man with the rifle and wore a blue jumper and khaki pants, both of these old and faded. In his right hand jacket pocket I saw a rope which appeared to be new. It was a green rope and about one half inch in diameter.

"The other men I did not notice well enough to describe.

"This statement of 5 handwritten pages has been read to me. It is true to the best of my knowledge.

" /s/ [REDACTED]

"Witnessed:

[REDACTED] Sp. Agent, F.B.I.

New Orleans, 4-23-69

[REDACTED] F.B.I., New Orleans, La.

Having furnished the foregoing of my statement [REDACTED] advised that in addition to the information set forth in this statement he recalled that the initial [REDACTED]



who abducted M. C. PARKER talked like farmers; that he did not notice if any of the individuals in this mob were left-handed; that he noticed no keys hanging from their belts or any other peculiarities in the type of dress or mannerism of these individuals which would assist in their identification. He stated to his knowledge these individuals left nothing in the jail other than a broken broom which the prisoners threw into a trash can on the morning of April 25, 1959, when they were cleaning up the jail.

[REDACTED] stated that when M. C. PARKER was taken from the jail on the night of April 24, 1959, he was wearing a white, vest-type undershirt and a pair of dark dress pants. He pointed out that PARKER was not wearing either shoes or socks.

[REDACTED] has furnished the following further description regarding the persons who entered the jail and the automobiles seen by him from the jail window:

[REDACTED] described one individual as being 5' 10" to 6', slim build, wearing blue-jean pants and blue-jean jumper, and relatively new brown cotton gloves. He advised this person was wearing a mask which consisted of a cotton stocking, light color, pulled over his head. He advised that this mask had eye holes cut out and this individual wore no hat. He stated that this individual was the first individual who entered the jail and started down the steps to the first tier, but turned and went up the steps when someone behind said 'up this way.'

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He advised that this is the same individual who first went to PARKER's cell door and shook the cell door. The man with the keys opened the cell door this individual entered the cell with two others and scuffled with PARKER. [REDACTED] stated that this individual carried a club approximately two feet long, 1 1/2 inches in diameter at one end and tapered down at the handle.

He advised that this individual and two others retreated from PARKER's cell after PARKER attempted to hit them with a foot tub throwing water on the cell floor. He stated that this individual called to the man with the

keys to bring the gun and shoot PARKER. He said that this individual and two others after the man with the keys apparently did not want to shoot PARKER, re-entered PARKER's cell, and again scuffled with PARKER. He advised that after PARKER ran from his cell into the south cell, this individual and others again attacked PARKER in the south cell. [REDACTED] stated that PARKER took the club away from this individual.

[REDACTED] described the man with the keys as being approximately 5' 6", stocky build, fat rather than muscular, somewhat portly and weighing approximately 170 pounds. He advised that this individual wore a mask which looked like a piece of black cloth, probably obtained from a woman's slip. [REDACTED] stated that this material was thin. He also stated he believed this individual was wearing brown cotton work gloves and blue denim jumper. He advised he is not sure as to the color of this individual's pants.

[REDACTED] stated that this individual is the one who unlocked the door at the top of the stairs which leads to the upper tier cell block. He advised that this individual is also the one who used a key to open the metal box in which were located the levers which control the cell doors. He advised that this individual is the one who, after opening the cell block door, asked where PARKER was. He advised that this individual is the one who was holding a gun when the others requested that he come and shoot PARKER. He advised that this is the individual who asked MONDY how to operate the cell doors.

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[REDACTED] described a third individual as being approximately 5' tall, slim build, wearing blue jeans and a light-colored shirt, and wearing a mask consisting of a bandana tied around the head in color. He stated this individual was in the cell block when he saw PARKER. He advised that this individual is the one who led the way leading into the upper tier cell block. He advised that this individual possessed a blue steel snub-nose revolver, which he handed to the man with the keys upon the individuals' request for the man with the keys to shoot PARKER. [REDACTED] described another individual as being approximately 5' 5" tall, 135 pounds, slim build, wearing

old khaki work clothes. [REDACTED] could furnish no further description of this individual other than that he was wearing a mask and gloves.

[REDACTED] described another individual as being similar in build to the man who possessed the keys. He advised that this individual was standing on the landing inside the jail door and he noted this individual screw out the light bulb in front of him. [REDACTED] advised that this light bulb is located on the ceiling of the first tier directly in front of the landing. [REDACTED] could furnish no further description of this individual other than his belief that this individual was wearing a black mask and gloves.

[REDACTED] stated that he recalls another individual stayed in the vicinity of the cell block door near [REDACTED] bunk; however, he could furnish no description of this individual.

[REDACTED] stated that he believes eight to ten unknown subjects entered the jail. He stated that all were masked and wore gloves. He advised that he observed only one gun, although some of the individuals had their hands inside their shirts giving the appearance of carrying a concealed weapon. [REDACTED] advised that the gun he observed was a .38 caliber [REDACTED] blue steel revolver.

[REDACTED] advised that after these individuals took PARKER from the jail, he went back to a window next to his bunk after he heard two screams which he believes came from the area of the south entrance of the courthouse. He [REDACTED] he looked out the window and observed a red car [REDACTED] while traveling west on Pearl Street and continuing through the intersection at the southwest corner of the courthouse block. [REDACTED] stated he believes this was a 1937 Oldsmobile with a red top and [REDACTED] He advised he observed no other automobiles.

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8. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] years of age, is [REDACTED] Louisiana, by occupation and resides on [REDACTED] receiving his mail at [REDACTED]. He was a prisoner in the upper tier (colored section) of the Pearl River County Jail, having been arrested April 7, 1959, on a charge of driving while drunk.

[REDACTED] was interviewed by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 25, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 26, 1959; by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on April 28, 1959; and by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 15, 1959.

[REDACTED] furnished the following signed statement:

"Poplarville, Mississippi  
April 25, 1959

"I, [REDACTED], make the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made to me to induce me to make this statement. I am making it in connection with an official investigation being conducted by the FBI.

"I am [REDACTED] years of age, having been born on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] La. I am a [REDACTED] employed as [REDACTED]. I live on [REDACTED], and receive my mail at [REDACTED]. I was arrested on April 7, 1959 for driving while drunk and have been in the Pearl River County Jail at Poplarville since then.

"I occupy a bunk in a cell with [REDACTED]. I went to sleep last night, Friday, April 24, 1959, and was awakened shortly

"after midnight by noises in the cell block. J. J. Mundy, another negro prisoner, was nudging me to try to awaken me.

"When I got awake I noticed about nine or ten men, with faces covered, in the cell block. One of the men was pushing on the door of W. C. Parker's cell while another man was trying to release the lock with the key in the control box. After the door was opened one of the men said to the others to go in and get him. Parker was yelling for help. I noticed a lot of water was spilled on the floor and figured it probably came from a foot tub. I heard Parker being beaten by sticks the men had with them. He got loose from them somehow and ran into our cell. His face was bloodied. The men came after him and one of them threw the garbage can at him. Parker yelled at us and asked if we were going to let them do that to him. Parker had gotten one of the knives and was swinging it but I don't know if he hit anyone. I ran into the shower stall in our cell and stayed there.

"I heard the men dragging Parker and looked out of the shower stall and saw them dragging him down the stairs by his heels. When about half way down the stairs I heard Parker yell he would wait if they would let him. One of the men locked the steel door at the head of the stairs and they all left. I heard Parker holler about a half hour they got outside. I heard three or four or more cars pull away from the side street of the jail.

"I do not think it was more than 10 or 15 minutes after they opened when everyone was gone.

"This three page statement is true to me by Mr. [REDACTED] and it is true.

" /s/ [REDACTED]

"Witnesses:

[REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI,  
[REDACTED] 4-25-59

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[REDACTED], Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, La. 4-25-59"

[REDACTED] additionally described the subjects  
he saw as follows:

The man with the red handkerchief over his  
face was 5' 6", between 150 to 160 pounds. He did not  
remember whether he wore a cap or hat, wore blue jean  
pants and blue denim jacket.

The man with short nose revolver had a  
woman's dark stocking over his face and wore blue denim  
pants. He is not sure whether he had a light or dark shirt  
or jacket.

Another man was dressed in a light red  
flannel shirt.

He stated he believed more than one man had  
a gun, but he could not specify who had the guns or the  
number of guns present. One man had a short piece of thin  
white rope, similar to clothesline rope. One man had a  
roll of the same type of rope (clothesline) in his jacket  
pocket. This man was dressed in blue denim pants and jacket  
also.

As to the rest of the men, [REDACTED] stated he  
saw some with white canvas gloves and [REDACTED] possibly  
that two or three other men may have had stockings pulled  
over their faces. All had long-sleeved shirts or jackets  
and most of them had some kind of a stick or club in their  
hand.

[REDACTED] furnished the following further  
descriptive data concerning the individuals who entered  
the Pearl River County Jail:

[REDACTED] stated that he recalls one individual  
standing in front of FARMER's cell door and this individual  
was wearing a mask consisting of a brown stocking. [REDACTED]  
advised he observed another individual also [REDACTED]  
door and this individual was wearing a red handkerchief over



his face and was wearing a hat. He advised that he observed another individual standing at the cell block door, holding a snub-nose revolver. He advised that this individual was wearing a handkerchief mask and a hat pulled down over his forehead.

He stated he recalls another individual wearing blue jeans and blue jumper who also carried a piece of rope and who also had a coil of new rope in the pocket of the jumper. [REDACTED] stated he could furnish no better description of the individuals as he retreated to the shower stall when these individuals were in the cell block.

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He advised that all persons he observed were wearing masks and were wearing gloves. He stated that all gloves he observed were white cotton gloves. He advised that most of these individuals were wearing blue-jean pants and blue jumpers. He stated that he observed no extremely tall individuals or extremely short individuals and that he observed no extremely fat individuals.



1931, was a prisoner in the upper cell of the  
the Pearl River County Jail. He was charged with the  
charge of murder.

He was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted] by SA's [redacted] on April 26, 1959; by SA's [redacted] on April 28, 1959; and by SA's [redacted] on May 15, 1959.

ment; [REDACTED] furnished the following signed state-

"Poplarville, Mississippi  
April 25, 1969

"I, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] following voluntary statement [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made to induce me to make this statement.

[REDACTED] I am changed  
 and I am in the [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] Ri  
 [REDACTED] Poplarville, [REDACTED] 1961.

"At midnight of Friday, April 24, 1936, I was in the jail. I heard someone rattling on the wooden door at the bottom of the jail stairs, which door separates the courtroom from the jail. I saw one man come up the stairs and he was carrying keys in his hand. He tried several keys in the lock of the door at the bottom of the stairs. This door is made of wood and leads to

"the cell block. This man had a woman's stocking over his head. The stocking had holes cut for the eyes so the man could see. He opened the door and asked C. J. Mundy, a prisoner, where A. C. Parker was. Mundy pointed to the cell where Parker was and said he was in that cell. The man asked how to get in that cell. Mundy told him how to unlock the cell door, that is, by placing one of the keys the man had in a box that then opens the cell block door. The man then opened the door.

"By this time there were about eight or nine more men, all masked, in the corridor outside of the cell blocks. After the man with the keys opened Parker's cell door all the men crowded in the cell or corridor.

"The light bulb in Parker's cell had been out before the men came into the cell so I do not know if Parker was asleep or not. The men did not turn on the bulb. There was a bulb burning in the cell block I was in.

"The men tried to drag Parker out of his cell. He fought them with his hands and picked up a foot tub and threw it at them. Parker yelled for help and called to Mundy to help him. Parker yelled to all of us and asked if we were going to leave them do that to him. The same man who opened the doors with the keys turned to us and had a gun in his hand. He said not to move.

"Parker was struggling with the men and ran his head to the cell door in. I occupied a cell with a man who was directly across from Parker's cell. Our cell door opened at the same time. We can't leave because of the cell door being locked.

"The men beat Parker and dragged him by the heels of his feet. He did not say a word. He had on a pair of greyish looking overalls and an undershirt. He yelled to the men that he would

"walk but they did not leave go of his heels. He yelled for help all the time. The men dragged Parker by his heels down the steps.

"While the men were beating Parker I stood in my cell with my two cellmates, [redacted] and [redacted] Mundy and [redacted] had bunks on the outside of the cell. [redacted] and they came into our cell, also. b7c b7D

"After the masked men dragged Parker down the stairs one of them locked the steel door at the head of the stairs. I think he is the same one who had the keys in the beginning. He told us not to make any noise because there were more men outside. We stayed quiet and smoked about three cigarettes. Mr. Moody, the Sheriff, then came and asked if we were all there. We told him some men took Parker away.

"This statement was read to me. It is four Pages I have signed each Page that it is truth.

" /s/ [redacted] b7c b7D

"Witnesses:

[redacted], Special Agent, F.B.I.,  
New Orleans, La., 4/25/59  
[redacted], Special Agent, FBI,  
New Orleans, 4/25/59"

[redacted] advised additionally that the first man in the jail is [redacted] as follows:

He wore a lady's jacket, [redacted] his head, dark work clothes, possibly blue [redacted] separate jumper of the same type material, possibly denim, buttoned not zippered, was about 5' 10", 180 pounds, had a firm voice, wore a cap or hat, but could not remember which. This man had the keys to the floor steel door and later on this same man had a blue snub-nose .38 caliber revolver.

██████████ advised he could furnish no description relative to unknown subjects, but described the rest of the group as follows: b7c b7D

He stated all wore hats or caps pulled down to their eyes, with handkerchiefs up to their eyes. All wore work clothes or dark clothes or had long-sleeved shirts or jackets on; wore soft, light-colored cotton gloves, except one man, who wore heavy work gloves. He could not further describe these gloves. He noted there were possibly some straw hats worn by the men, but he could not identify these further. No names were mentioned by any unknown subjects and they merely directed their remarks to one another without specifically naming the individual by any name or any nicknames.

██████████ furnished the following descriptive data concerning the individuals who entered the Pearl River County Jail: b7c b7D

██████████ stated that he was awake in his bunk in the south cell when he heard a rattling of keys outside the jail door. He advised that the first individual who entered the jail door was wearing a woman's tan straw hat over his head with eye holes cut out. He advised that the individual did most of the talking for the group. ██████████ stated that he could furnish no description of any particular individual, but estimated nine or ten individuals came into the jail. He advised that all of these individuals wore gloves and most of the individuals wore handkerchief masks.

He advised that he saw only one gun, this being a blue steel revolver and this gun was in the possession of an individual who never entered either cell, but who stood near the door to the cell block.

He advised that most of these individuals were wearing blue work clothes and that some were wearing khaki pants. He stated he observed one individual wearing a straw hat like most farmers wear.

B. OTHER WITNESSES

1. JOHN REYER

JOHN REYER, Route A, Poplarville, Mississippi, was interviewed on April 25, 1969, by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He was again interviewed on April 25 & 28, 1969, by SA [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. b7c

REYER furnished the following information:

At about 11:30 p.m., Friday, April 25, 1969, JOE REYER, brother of JOHN REYER, came to JOHN's home and said his wife was sick and wanted JOHN to drive them to the hospital in Poplarville, Mississippi, about three miles distant. JOHN REYER got dressed, got in his pickup truck and drove to JOE's house nearby and looked at his watch and noted it was 11:45 PM. At about that time JOE and his wife came out and he drove them straight to the hospital, arriving at about 11:55 PM.

JOE took his wife in the front of the hospital and JOHN walked out in front of his car. He heard a noise up in the jail which is located across the street from the hospital in the upper portion of the County Courthouse. At about this time two nurses came out on the front porch of the hospital and he walked up on the front porch with them. He heard a man's voice from the jail call for help several times.

At about this time he started to walk to the Star Cafe on Main Street to get a cup of coffee. A [REDACTED] was with him. In walking, to Main Street, they went to the southwest corner of the courthouse yard and walked on the sidewalk, south of the courthouse, headed east and when [REDACTED] reached a point about twenty feet from the sidewalk leading to the [REDACTED] of the courthouse, he noted a group of men on the [REDACTED] steps. He estimated there were eight in the group. About four of these men were carrying [REDACTED] being, holding him by his arms and legs and carrying him head first. This person appeared to be [REDACTED] up and he observed that his face was covered with blood. He pointed out the moon was shining and he thought a [REDACTED] b7c

light was shining on a corner nearby and the light was fairly good. He knew PARKER was in jail and was to be tried the following Monday and reached a conclusion that this person must have been PARKER. He pointed out, however, that he had never seen PARKER. He could not definitely state whether or not this person was white or Negro because he had only a brief glimpse of his face and then noted it was covered with blood. He could furnish no description of the clothing, if any, worn by the person being carried, stating this group of men fairly well surrounded the man they were carrying.

He said this group of men were moving at a "fast trot," neither walking nor running. PARKER stopped, about twenty feet from the courthouse sidewalk, when he first saw this group of men, and did not move from this spot for at least forty-five seconds. While standing there he saw the group approach a car parked at the curb at the end of the sidewalk leading to the courthouse and he first noted the car when one of the group opened the back door of the car, which was a four-door sedan. The men tossed the man they were carrying into the back seat of the car, head first, and he believed two of the men got into the back seat with him. PARKER hurriedly got into the front seat. He did not think all the group got into this car but did not know where the remainder of the group went. He could recall seeing no other car parked or leaving this area. The four-door sedan pulled away from the curb with the tires turning toward west, and crossed the street which runs between the courthouse and the hospital still headed west. At that time, HEYER commenced walking in an easterly direction as far as south of the courthouse, but he was walking south. He did not know what happened to [REDACTED] as he has not seen him since. [REDACTED] was taken to the hospital. He recalls the light was not very bright when he first observed it parked at the curb. He does not remember whether or not the lights were on when the car left the scene. He could furnish no description of the automobile as to color, make, or model, other than to say it was a four-door sedan. He was not frightened, but did not want to get involved in the matter in any manner, and just wanted to get out of there. He did not notice whether or not the car bore a license plate.

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REYER heard no conversation whatsoever from this group of men and did not hear a sound from the person being carried. None of the group said anything to REYER and he does not think they even noticed his standing there. He did not notice anyone else in the area during this period of time.

REYER described the group as all wearing common work clothing, not dressed-up clothing, and thinking at least part of the men were wearing dark gloves. He could not say whether or not they were white men, as they were all masked. He did not know whether or not they wore gloves. He saw no sticks or clubs or guns in possession of any of the group. He could not say whether or not any of the men were wearing hats. It was difficult for him to furnish a physical description of the men as some of them were walking humped over carrying the person and they were all moving fast. REYER is 5'6" in height. He did not think any of the men were taller. ~~There~~ were no real tall men in the group.

REYER could not recognize any of the group as someone he might know.

REYER pointed out he has read magazines, does not wear glasses except to read, and was not wearing glasses on this occasion.

REYER noted one man to be wearing a black mask which appeared to have been pulled over his head and which reached to his neck. He noted no eye holes in this mask. He thought one man had a blue bandana mask pulled over his head. He noted no white masks in the group.

With regard to the masks reportedly worn by the group of men, REYER is very positive that he never told anyone that the masks had slipped down on the faces of any of the men and that to the best of his recollection all men in the group were still wearing their masks when he saw them.

REYER was also very emphatic in stating



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12 he was misunderstood or misquoted if anyone quoted him as  
13 saying he had seen three or four cars south of the courthouse  
14 or leaving that area at about the time victim PARKER was  
15 abducted.

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17 He still claimed he was unable to furnish  
18 a description of the car parked at the curb into which  
19 PARKER was thrown, other than to say that the car was not  
20 a white car and that it was a four-door car.

21  
22 REYER was also positive that no vehicle  
23 proceeded from a point south of the courthouse in an  
24 easterly direction at about the time the car containing  
25 the victim proceeded in a westerly direction.

26  
27 REYER was very persistent in his statement  
28 that he did not recognize any of this group of men, was  
29 unable to furnish a good physical description of them  
30 because they were hurrying and because of the poor light,  
31 and was not positive but thought some of the group might  
32 have been wearing gloves. He again emphasized he did not  
33 see any of this group with their masks off or partially  
34 off their faces.

35  
36 REYER was also very positive in his statements  
37 that he did not turn around and watch the departing car  
38 which contained the victim after it had pulled away from the  
39 curb and was positive in his statement that he immediately  
40 proceeded to the Star Cafe, located several blocks away on  
41 Main Street, for a cup of coffee. He spent a short period  
42 of time drinking coffee and then returned to the courthouse  
43 and went into the Sheriff's Office with a small group of  
44 men. He was positive he went into the Sheriff's Office  
45 at [redacted] before going to the Star Cafe.

46  
47 REYER also recalled that when he first looked  
48 up at the jail after hearing a car which [redacted] the lights  
49 were on in the jail. Shortly thereafter, the lights went  
50 out.

51  
52 REYER advised he had received no threats,  
53 was in collusion with no one to withhold any information  
54 and was, in fact, doing his very best to furnish all the  
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information in his possession as to what transpired on the night of April 24, 1959. He pointed out again that things happened so fast and so suddenly that he was just unable to note anything that happened other than what he had previously related.

2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was interviewed on April 25, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He furnished the following information:

He advised that on Friday, April 24, 1959, he had been working in New Orleans, Louisiana, and that he caught a bus Friday evening for Poplarville, Mississippi, arrived at Poplarville at approximately 10:30 P. M., April 24, 1959, after which he walked to the Pearl River County Hospital to the rear of the Pearl River County Courthouse. He explained that his father was ill at the hospital and that on his arrival his wife was there and had parked the family automobile directly in front of the hospital. He stated his father was confined to the southwest corner and in the last of April, he stated he stayed with his father until 10:00 P. M. and 9:00 the following morning, April 25, 1959.

[REDACTED] stated that sometime near midnight he heard some of the nurses at the hospital, whom he cannot furnish, say that some Negroes were in a fight at the jail. He said he went out in front of the hospital and took a jacket from his car, which he did. He now does not know how many more than one or two yards from his car and that he heard some talking by what he could hear in the area along the south side of the courthouse. [REDACTED] did not could not tell if the individuals he saw were white or black. He stated he did not go to the area and was afraid that he would know some of them.

not want to get into any argument. He said the loud talking sounded to him like an argument was in progress. [REDACTED] stated he walked back from his car to the front sidewalk of the hospital, at which time he heard two or three cars leave in a hurry, stating he heard the tires squealing as they left. He insisted he did not see the cars and said he could not furnish a description of them.

[REDACTED] stated that from his position he did not see anyone he knew at the south end of the courthouse.

[REDACTED] stated that shortly thereafter Sheriff MOODY came to a point in front of the hospital and that he accompanied the Sheriff and J. J. WILKINSON, PETE CARVER, B. F. ORR and [REDACTED] into the courthouse via the south stairs. [REDACTED] did not see any keys lying around, but he did see what appeared to be drops of blood along the corridor of the courthouse.

[REDACTED] stated he accompanied the above individuals up the stairs to the jail area. At this time the door was locked and that all returned to the first floor to look for the keys. He stated he, in self, assisted in a search along the corridor for the keys to the jail and that during the search someone found the keys and gave them to the Sheriff.

[REDACTED] was closely questioned as to whether he knew any of the individuals whom he is [REDACTED] a few minutes earlier at the south entrance to the courthouse. He denied knowing any of the persons who were there.

2. 1959. by SA's [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] at which time he advised [REDACTED] that he worked at the Waste Glass & Mirror Company, 111 [REDACTED] Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. [REDACTED] the following information regarding his activities on the night of April 24, 1959:

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12 [redacted] arrived in Poplarville, Mississippi,  
13 at about 10:20 PM by bus from New Orleans, Louisiana. Upon  
14 getting off of the bus he went immediately to the Pearl  
15 River County Hospital where he found his car parked in  
16 the parking area in front of the hospital at the end of  
17 the sidewalk leading from the front of the hospital to  
18 the parking area. After placing his clothes in the car,  
19 he entered the hospital and went directly to the room of  
20 his father, [redacted]

21  
22 In the room of [redacted] he saw his  
23 wife, [redacted] another patient named [redacted] and a couple  
24 who were visiting [redacted]. He went in and out of the room  
25 several times to get coffee, water and to check mail around  
26 the hospital corridor.

27  
28 Sometime later, exact time not recalled,  
29 he went out to his car to obtain a jacket, at which time  
30 he saw seven or eight men standing in the street between  
31 the south corner of the courthouse and the Poplarville  
32 Furniture Company. [redacted] was unable to describe any  
33 of these men and said he had no recollection of their  
34 dress. He also could not recall whether these men were  
35 wearing masks of any kind. He did not approach these men  
36 and gave as a reason the fact he was not one of a  
37 curious nature.

38  
39 After arriving at the hospital and while  
40 at the hospital, he recalled he had heard a noise but was  
41 unable to describe this noise. He recalled one of the  
42 nurses, name unknown, came to his father's room and said  
43 they must have broke that "nigger" out of the room to that  
44 effect. He did not discuss this remark with anyone and  
45 did not have any conversation regarding  
46 the incident.

47  
48 [redacted] recalled while he was in  
49 the hospital he saw an "old man" out on the sidewalk who  
50 was dressed in dark clothes. He said he did not know the  
51 identity of this man but felt he had come to the hospital  
52 with a sick woman during the night. He was unable to  
53 recall what time of night he saw this man standing on the  
54 sidewalk.

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11 [REDACTED] denied approaching the men standing  
12 in the street between the courthouse and the furniture  
13 company, but during the latter portion of this interview  
14 said the men in the street had a "nigger" and that the  
15 thought went through his mind that they were attempting  
16 to put a drunk "nigger" in jail. He said he recalled  
17 another visitor in the hospital room of his father who  
18 was visiting [REDACTED] and that this individual was a  
19 white male, wearing cowboy boots and a cowboy hat, but  
20 he did not personally know this individual. When asked  
21 if he saw this same man standing outside the hospital when  
22 he, [REDACTED] was outside and saw the men in the street,  
23 [REDACTED] denied seeing this individual in cowboy dress  
24 outside the hospital. b7c  
b7D

25  
26 When the Sheriff arrived he, [REDACTED]  
27 went across the street to the courthouse where he saw  
28 blood on the steps and in the courthouse. He returned  
29 to the hospital. He did not recall seeing or talking  
30 to Mr. WILLIAM STEWART, the County Prosecuting Attorney. b7c  
b7D

31  
32 Upon termination of this interview [REDACTED]  
33 [REDACTED] advised he did not wish to furnish a signed state-  
34 ment incorporating the information set forth above.

35  
36 C. INDIVIDUALS OVERHEARING CONVERSATION  
37 ATTENDANT TO ABDUCTION

38  
39 1. Mrs. FORREST BURGE

40  
41 On April 20, 1969, Mrs. [REDACTED]  
42 advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
43 that she is also known as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
44 [REDACTED] driver for mail c/o General Delivery,  
45 Poplarville, Mississippi. She stated she is employed as  
46 a nurse at the Pearl River County Hospital. [REDACTED]  
47 the night of April 24, 1969, she went to [REDACTED] at  
48 approximately 7:00 PM and worked on private duty  
49 [REDACTED] until 11:00 PM, at which time  
50 went on her general duties at the hospital. She stated  
51 her normal shift on the night of April 24, 1969, was from  
52 11:00 PM until 7:00 AM. b7c



Mrs. BURGE then furnished the following information regarding her activities from 11:00 P.M. until the following morning:

The change of shift at 11:00 P.M. at the hospital was a little slow on the night of April 24, 1959, and she obtained her papers and reported them. She carried to the desk and began working with them at a little after 11:00 P.M. She had been at the front of the hospital and did not recall any unusual activity in the front of the hospital in that there were no cars moving about or unusually large numbers of people walking in front of the hospital or near the Santa River County Courthouse, which is located directly across the street from the hospital. As she was working on the reports on her desk, she heard a call, but did not feel that it would be considered a scream. She pointed out that it was not unusual for prisoners in the Santa River County Jail to call across the street to the nurses at the hospital and ask them to perform favors for them, such as telephoning friends and acquaintances. Therefore, she started to walk to the front door of the hospital as she felt someone was calling. When she got to the nurses at the hospital. As she approached the door, she overheard a call for help, which she was unable to specifically describe, but stated after hearing this call she realized that something "horrible" was happening in the jail.

When asked to further describe the call from the jail, Mrs. BURGE said she could not recall that it was a continuous call for help. She did not immediately to the telephone and called the jail. She stated that it was 11:50 P.M. when she called the jail. This time by the Santa River County Jail while talking to the Sheriff. She stated that she called the Sheriff at the jail and that she was suffering what was described to her as a "heart attack" and then called Dr. [redacted] and told him the condition. Dr. [redacted] instructed her to give [redacted] a hypodermic which contained a narcotic. She at once prepared the hypodermic, which she then took approximately two or three minutes to get to Mrs. [redacted] at which time she received the shot. This shot since it contained a narcotic. She stated she had examined her records and determined that [redacted] was shot at 11:45 P.M. on April 24, 1959.

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12 She, therefore, estimated she had phoned  
13 the Sheriff at about 11:40 PM and told him it sounded  
14 like something "horrible" was going on at the jail and  
15 to come quickly. She said she could not recall the  
16 Sheriff asking her any questions or giving her any in-  
17 structions.

18  
19 While she was taking care of [REDACTED] b7c  
20 the other nurse on duty, CORILL LOVELL, telephoned the  
21 Star Cafe and asked them to notify the Night Herald.  
22 She could not recall why LOVELL telephoned the Star  
23 Cafe and could not recall she requested anything from this.

24  
25 Having completed her immediate duties  
26 with [REDACTED] she went to the door of the hospital  
27 and continued to hear the calls for help. She did not  
28 notice any unusual activity in the front of the hospital  
29 at this time; however, she stated she did see a car  
30 parked at the south entrance to the courthouse near the  
31 sidewalk which runs from the south entrance of the court-  
32 house to the street. She said this car was partially  
33 hidden behind a bush at the southwest corner of the  
34 courthouse, but she could see the left front fender of  
35 the car and a portion of the grill. She estimated the  
36 left front fender of the car as being about the size and  
37 that the grill was of chromium and chrome in the light.

38  
39 She said that sometime during the night  
40 she was calling the Sheriff or attorney, [REDACTED] b7c  
41 that she went to the door of the hospital and saw an  
42 old-model car which was a full light blue color driving on  
43 South Julia Street between the hospital and the courthouse.  
44 This car was near the intersection of South  
45 Julia Street and Willie Street. That the car turned onto  
46 Willie Street in the [REDACTED] area and was pro-  
47 ceeding slowly. Mrs. [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] that this  
48 car was not in any way involved in the [REDACTED]  
49 was possibly a car leaving the hospital or [REDACTED]  
50 someone driving up Julia Street.

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52 Mrs. [REDACTED] stated she could not recall  
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seeing anyone come out of the courthouse and she did not see any cars driving away from the vicinity of the courthouse immediately following her phone call to the Sheriff. She pointed out she had become busy tending to [REDACTED] and other patients and it was quite possible she was at the rear of the hospital if any cars had driven away at a high rate of speed and she would have been unable to have heard them in the back of the hospital. b7c

Mrs. BURKE stated she was unable to recall who came to the courthouse first, but she did recall that the Sheriff arrived and also B. F. ORR, the Tax Collector, and "PETE" CARMER, the Night Marshal. She said to the best of her recollection she officers went to the jail first before coming to the hospital and she only recalled talking to GEORGE MOODY, who is the son of the Sheriff and a Deputy in the Sheriff's Department.

Mrs. BURKE said that following the incident she had been busy with [REDACTED] and other patients and she had had no time to talk to visitors in the hospital regarding what they had observed during the period from 11:45 to 12:30 AM. She said she had been unable to develop any further information regarding what had happened, but that should any information come to her attention she would immediately advise the FBI. b7c

## 2. Miss GUELL LOWELL

On April 20, 1959, Miss [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that she received her mail at box 24, [REDACTED], Mississippi, that the street on which the residence was [REDACTED] it is near the outskirts of Poplarville. She said she had been employed for the past two years as a nurse at the [REDACTED] Hospital and that for the past week, including April 24, 1959, she has been working from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. b7c

Miss LOWELL stated she [REDACTED] approximately 11:00 PM, the night of April 24, 1959, and [REDACTED]

she performed her regular duties until approximately 12 midnight; that sometime either just before or just after midnight, a Mrs. [REDACTED] was brought to the hospital suffering from what was believed to be at that time, a heart attack. She stated her attention was directed to [REDACTED] and that apparently at the time the incident occurred in the jail she had the stethoscope in her ears and that her only recollection is that there was possibly a commotion during this time. She then stated that she continued her duties in the hospital working until approximately 7:00 AM the next morning, and that during her entire tour of duty she had no knowledge of what had transpired in the Pearl River County Courthouse until 7:00 AM the next morning, at which time she was at home eating breakfast with her mother and they heard the news on the radio. b7c

Miss LOVELESS was interviewed extensively for any information regarding visitors to the hospital, conversation that she possibly could have heard and asked specifically if DIMPLE FURSE, the other nurse who was on duty with her, had not mentioned the incident to her during their tour of duty, and Miss LOVELESS continued to maintain she had no further information other than that originally furnished.

3. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was interviewed on April 10, 1959, and [REDACTED] advised that she is a nurse at the Pearl River County Hospital and had worked the 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM shift at the hospital on April 9, 1959. After completing her regular shift at approximately 11:30 PM, she was on private duty at the hospital with a patient [REDACTED]. This patient occupied a room in the south wing of the hospital. She heard a noise which [REDACTED] and could describe about an hour or more after she had been with the private patient. She was unable to fix the time this noise occurred. She could not describe the noise she had heard other than to say that it sounded like her some kind of emergency had occurred. She went to [REDACTED] b7c b7D

the lobby of the hospital and in the lobby she noted that nurse Mrs. DIMPLE BURGE was on the telephone and appeared to be handling the emergency that had occurred. She had heard no distinct words or sounds which she could describe, but had gained the impression that some commotion was going on in the jail. She had noted that nurse Miss ODELL LOVELESS was attending a patient in the lobby of the hospital. She had not noticed anyone else in the lobby. She did not question Mrs. BURGE as to what had occurred. She returned to attend her patient and it was not until later that she learned what had happened.

4. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
regularly employed at the Pearl River County Hospital, and who resides over [REDACTED] across the street from the hospital. [REDACTED] was interviewed by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

She stated that on the night of April 24, 1959, she was a patient in [REDACTED] of the Pearl River County Hospital, which room is located in the right hand wing of the hospital. She had taken a sedative to help her sleep and sometime during the night was awakened by cries for help coming from somewhere in the ward vicinity. In addition to the cries for help, she recalled the definite sound of blows being struck, the [REDACTED] being obtained that a hand or strap was being used. She arose and went from her room to the door of the Negro ward located to the rear of the hospital, as she believed the disturbance was there. Observing nothing at that location, she went to the [REDACTED] which adjoins the lobby of the hospital. She concluded at that time that someone was being beaten in the Negro tier of the jail located across the street. She stated she gathered the impression that it was in the Negro tier because the man's voice crying for help seemed to her to be that of a colored individual.

Further, she recalled it was not unusual for persons to be confined who were intoxicated and called out from the windows.

Upon approaching the front section of the hospital, she noted that [REDACTED] and JOHN REYER were entering the lobby. She also noted that DIMPLE BURGE was on the telephone attempting to locate members of the Sheriff's Department. She stated that she had no idea of the exact time, except that she knew it was after the 11:00 P. M. shift came on duty. From the window of the nurses' quarters, she looked out the window toward the direction of the jail and observed nothing except that there were a few cars parked in front of the hospital building as they are usually parked for hospital visitors. She stated there were some people on the hospital porch, but she did not go out there.

She recalled that DIMPLE BURGE was trying to call JEWEL ALFORD, the jailer, and evidently reached Sheriff W. O. MOODY. Immediately following this call to the Sheriff, DIMPLE BURGE called [REDACTED] concerning his patient, [REDACTED] who had just arrived for medication.

Upon further observation [REDACTED] noted that the jail lights appeared to be [REDACTED] except for dim illumination away from the windows. She also noted that the two REYER men went out on the front porch and that she also saw R. J. WHITE, a Sheriff's Officer, as well as two nurses, Mrs. ODELL ALVAREZ and [REDACTED].

At about this time, she believes [REDACTED] said, "What did that nigger out of there." [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] Town Marshal, was out there [REDACTED] the first spoke of what had happened.

She said that she did not recall [REDACTED] either ORR or CARVER closely, but recognized [REDACTED] when they approached.

She stated she was still not able to [REDACTED] the exact time of these occurrences, but was able to estimate minutes after DIMPLE BURGE was attempting to make her call.



WILLIAM STEWART, Pearl River County Attorney, arrived at the hospital and inquired as to what she had seen and she stated that she did not want him to call anyone that she had heard anything. (It being noted that according to Miss HOWARD she saw none of the activity at the courthouse and jail).

She then returned to her room and, upon looking out the window, she could observe the street which runs west past the hospital and the north side of the courthouse. She said there is considerable shrubbery and other obstructions between the window in Room 12 and the street, but that she did take note of the passing of two cars going west at a fairly slow rate of speed. She said that beyond knowing that there were two cars which traveled quite closely together, there was no other detail of the cars or occupants known to her; that at no time during the night of April 24, 1968, did she see any car or person apparently involved in the abduction of the prisoner. She stated further that from her contacts with other members, patients, and visitors, she had learned of no information which she believes relates to the abduction.

##### 5. JOE REYER

JOE REYER, Route 1, Box 22, Poplarville, Mississippi, was interviewed on April 25, 1968, at 2:00 PM, by SA's [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. REYER advised that on Friday night, April 23, 1968, his wife got sick during the night at about 11:00 PM, exact time not known. He walked about a quarter of a mile across the fields to the home of his brother, JOHN REYER, and JOHN came by and drove his wife to the hospital in Poplarville, Mississippi.

He walked back across the fields to his wife ready to go, and shortly thereafter, at about 1:00 AM, arrived in JOHN's pickup truck and brought her back to the hospital in Poplarville, Mississippi.

As they were parking in front of the hospital in Poplarville, he heard a "racket" over at the County Jail.



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11 which is located upstairs in the courthouse directly  
12 across the street from the Pearl River County Hospital.  
13 When they parked in front of the hospital, he noted  
14 there were no other cars parked in front of the hospital.  
15

16 REYER was worried about his wife's condi-  
17 tion and did not recall exactly what happened but thought  
18 his brother, JOHN, went into the lobby of the hospital  
19 with them where his wife took a seat to wait for the  
20 nurse to call for a doctor. Thereafter, he did not know  
21 what had happened to his brother, JOHN.  
22

23 Before he got inside the hospital he  
24 heard someone "hollering" for help. The sound appeared  
25 to come from the jail, which is located on the upper  
26 floors of the courthouse. He heard this voice calling  
27 and shouting for at least what appeared to him to be  
28 seven or eight minutes. The calling continued after  
29 he got into the lobby of the hospital and he got up and  
30 closed the front doors to the hospital so his wife would  
31 not be disturbed by the noise.  
32

33 Sometime later, his brother, JOHN, came  
34 into the hospital, but he did not have time to talk JOHN  
35 much about what happened outside.  
36

37 Since bringing his wife to the hospital,  
38 he has received no further information and has had no  
39 further opportunity to talk to his brother, JOHN.  
40

41 REYER advised he is a former lawman  
42 but is now a farmer. He has lived for most of his life  
43 in Pearl River County, has always been for law enforce-  
44 ment and has always been against mob rule. REYER  
45 advised he intended to cooperate fully in any way possible.  
46

47 6. [REDACTED]  
48 [REDACTED]  
49 [REDACTED]  
50 [REDACTED] was interviewed on [REDACTED]  
51 [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]  
52 she was at the Pearl River County Hospital in Poplarville.  
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Mississippi, on the night of April 24, 1959, at which time she was sitting with her father-in-law, [REDACTED] who is ill. She stated she was in the room with her father-in-law and Mr. [REDACTED] who was also ill. She stated she did not recall any other individuals that were present in the hospital other than her husband [REDACTED] Mrs. [REDACTED] advised she recalled her husband went out to their car and obtained a jacket and when he returned to the hospital he said, "They got that nigger." [REDACTED] then stated she did not hear anything else regarding the incident and stated she was unable to furnish any information whatsoever. b7c b7D

It was pointed out to [REDACTED] that it did not appear logical that, since her husband had told her that "they got that nigger", she did not make any further inquiry among the visitors or employees of the hospital, and did not overhear or observe any activity by the individuals in the hospital. She stated she did not desire to furnish any further information in connection with this matter, and stated her husband had previously been interviewed by two agents of the FBI and that possibly her husband could furnish further information, but she did not wish to do so. b7c b7D

7. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Mississippi, in the [REDACTED]  
interviewed on April 25, 1959 by SA's [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED] He was again interviewed [REDACTED] 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] advised he is a carpenter, bricklayer and general [REDACTED] b7c b7D

On the night of April 24, 1959, [REDACTED] and his wife drove into Poplarville to [REDACTED] at the hospital, arriving at the hospital at about [REDACTED] P. M. He left the hospital and came back to the [REDACTED] arriving at about 9:30 to 9:30 P. M. He left [REDACTED] for a short while and got back to the hospital at about [REDACTED] P. M. and then stayed at the hospital [REDACTED] until R. J. [REDACTED] called him and, at about 12:20 A. M., April 25, 1959, he and his wife proceeded [REDACTED] b7c

to the north entrance of the hospital, got into their car, and drove home.

He recalled that at approximately 11:35 P. M., April 24, 1959, his wife left the room to get a Coca-Cola, was gone a few minutes, and returned. At this time, he left the room to go to the candy dispensing machine to get a bar of candy, and went back to the room. He was very groggy and sleepy and tired, inasmuch as he had been working hard during the day and lost quite a bit of sleep at night staying at the hospital and was anxious for F. J. WHEAT to come along, therefore, looked up at the clock in the hall of the hospital and noted it was 12:05 A. M., April 25, 1959, at the time he got the candy bar.

A man named [REDACTED] had been in the same room staying with his father just prior to midnight, April 24, 1959, and [REDACTED] had also been in the room at about this time. He asked some and did not recall exactly when [REDACTED] and FRANK WHEAT left the room, and he last recalled seeing them just before going out to get the candy bar and did not see them thereafter. Just prior to this time, [REDACTED] had told them "they" had said something had happened at the jail and someone was hollering.

b7c

[REDACTED] wife had also been in the room; however, he did not recall when she left the room. It was his recollection that he first noticed [REDACTED] at about 11:35 P. M., April 24, 1959.

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At no time did he hear anyone calling for [REDACTED] or hear any cars driving past the hospital.

He stated in his report that the room in which [REDACTED] was staying had an opening only to the north end of the hospital and would not have a view of any street outside the hospital. It was difficult for anyone in this room to see anything outside of the hospital.

b7c

\_\_\_\_\_ slept late the next morning, did not know what happened until the next morning, and could not state exactly how he found out it happened, but stated it was by either reading a newspaper or hearing a radio broadcast.

Shortly after [redacted] got back to the room with his candy bar, his wife got up and walked back down the hall toward the Coca-Cola machine and he left the room and walked to the main hall located around the corner and saw his wife in the hall looking into the lobby of the hospital. She came back to the room shortly thereafter, but did not comment as to whether or not she had seen anything about the commotion at the jail.

8.

[REDACTED] was interviewed  
on April 24, 1968 by [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], a [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
who resides on [REDACTED] Road,  
father [REDACTED] has been a patient at the [REDACTED]

County Hospital, Poplarville, Mississippi, from April 16-29, 1959. She said that approximately 8:30 P.M., April 24, 1959, her husband drove her from their home to the hospital so that she could stay with her father. She said her husband left the hospital immediately after dropping her there and returned later that night. She said her father's room in the hospital was located on the north, which is in the rear of the hospital. She said that it is not possible to see any streets from these windows. She stated that approximately 9:00 P.M., April 24, 1959, her husband returned to the hospital alone. She said a short time after he came to the hospital he went for coffee and returned approximately fifteen to twenty minutes later. She did not know the exact time that he left and returned.

[redacted] stated that she was in her father's room at approximately midnight on April 24, 1959, and left the room for a few minutes to get a Coca-Cola at the machine in the hospital. She said that this Coca-Cola machine is located approximately five feet north of the lobby entrance in the main corridor of the hospital. It was her recollection that she had gone for the Coca-Cola at approximately midnight or 12:05 AM, April 25, 1959. She said that when she obtained the Coca-Cola and had started back to her room of her father, she heard screaming. She said she learned from the sounds that the screams were coming from the jail, located in the courthouse across the street from the hospital. She could not recall if the jail doors were open. She definitely recalled hearing at least one cry for help. She could not say whether the person who was white or Negro. She said that at the same time she heard the screams she saw one of the nurses in the corridor. She did not know the nurse's name and recalled her only as being a nurse. She recalled that at this time there were people in the lobby of the hospital, although she could not recall their identity. It was her recollection that she heard the screams at the clock at about this time, because she was looking at her brother, R. J. SMITH, at the hospital. She said that it was her belief it was about five minutes after midnight.

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12 She said she proceeded immediately to  
13 her father's room after hearing the screaming and after  
14 entering the room told her husband, "I heard someone  
15 hollering up in the jail. Someone must be getting  
16 beat up or something's happening." She stated she did  
17 not even think of the possibility that the person  
18 screaming was M. C. PARKER, but that from the sound  
19 of the screams it seemed like someone was being beaten  
20 or was sick and needed help. She stated she could  
21 recall only one specific call for help.

22  
23 She said as soon as she had told her  
24 husband of the above he left the room. She was of the  
25 opinion that he went to get a bar of candy and said  
26 he returned not more than five minutes later and with  
27 a candy bar.

28  
29 She stated that it was her recollection  
30 that at the time she had left the room to get her  
31 Coca-Cola ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ were at the jail  
32 with their father, ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ who was a doctor  
33 in the same room with her father. She recalled that  
34 ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ had been in and out of her father's room  
35 most of the evening, but she could not specifically  
36 recall whether or not he had been in the room at ap-  
37 proximately midnight. She said she could not recall  
38 specifically whether or not ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ was in  
39 the room when she returned and told her husband what  
40 she had heard. She said that her husband said nothing  
41 about the screams and mentioned nothing that day con-  
42 cerning happenings at the jail when he returned with  
43 his candy bar.

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44  
45 She said she and her husband left the  
46 hospital at approx. 11:30 p.m. April 29, 1968,  
47 at which time they had seen ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ R. J. WHEAT. She said she saw no one else  
48 the hospital. She pointed out their car was parked  
49 on the street directly north of the hospital at the  
50 curb closest to the hospital and headed west on ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~



that they drove directly from the hospital to their home and saw nothing unusual while on the way home.

She could not recall the names of any other persons whom she had seen in the hospital at the time of hearing the screams.

She recalled that when R. J. WINT came into the hospital to relieve her she told him about the screams she had heard. She does not recall what he said, if anything, about the incident. It was her recollection that when he came into the hospital he was accompanied by someone whom he was talking to in the hallway, but she could not remember who the person was.

She said the first she knew that M. G. PARKER had been abducted from the County Jail was on the morning of April 25, 1959, when she heard the story on a radio broadcast. She said that on the night of April 25, 1959, R. J. WINT mentioned to her that someone had taken M. G. PARKER from the jail, but he furnished her with no additional details.

She emphasized that she had left her father's room on only one occasion at approximately midnight and that was the time she left to obtain the Coca-Cola. She recalled that when she was in the hospital at approximately 12:30 AM, April 25, 1959, she stopped briefly at the entrance to the lobby, down the main corridor and looked out into the lobby, but she did not see anything of value to this investigation.

She said that she was a suspect in this matter and had no friends or relatives who were in the hospital at that time. She promised to tell everything she knew, including any information which might come to her mind that would be of value in this case.

9. [REDACTED]

On April 27, 1969, [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised  
SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that on  
the night of April 24, 1969, she had been visited by  
her sisters until about 11:00 PM, at which time she  
went to bed on a sofa in the living room, which is  
located in the front portion of her house located one  
block from the south entrance of the courthouse. She  
stated before going to sleep she had heard someone  
calling for help and she believed that this call came  
from the direction of the courthouse. She was unable  
to describe the call specifically but had the recollection that it was a cry for help. She stated when  
she heard this cry the thought passed through her mind  
that some of the law enforcement officers were  
jailing a drunk and that she gave no further thought  
to the matter. [REDACTED] stated that she did not  
recall hearing the screaming of any vehicle or cars  
passing her home at a high rate of speed near the time  
of the cry for help. She added that she did not get  
out of bed when she heard the call and that she has no  
additional information concerning the incident.

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10. [REDACTED]

On April 27, 1969, [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED] Poplarville, Mississippi, advised  
SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that he was  
awakened at about midnight, [REDACTED] by  
the voice of someone who was calling out  
"come on quick" or words to that effect. [REDACTED]  
stated that he heard this voice several times, but did not  
know if it came from jail. He said that he did get  
out of bed, but did not go outside, and, upon consulting  
his wife, she suggested that he go back to bed, but  
he said he did. [REDACTED] advised that neither he nor  
his wife heard or saw anything other than his own  
heard the above-described voice.

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11. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], on May 12, 1959, that she had attended the dance at the Pearl River Junior College on the evening of April 24, 1959. She said that her escort was [REDACTED]. She said that she and [REDACTED] departed the dance at its termination at approximately 11:00 PM, and drove out to Pat's Drive-In Service Station for refreshments. She said that they drove one block south of the courthouse and then west toward her residence. She said that they arrived at her residence at approximately 11:20 to 11:30 PM and, upon walking to her door step, she observed a 1955 or 1956 Chevrolet parking and with the lights out on the hospital side of West Pearl Street, about three-quarters of a block east of the intersection of West Pearl Street and Strahan. She said that she could not further observe or describe this automobile or see anyone get out of it.

She said that she did not hear any sound upon arriving home from the dance; however, the car that had stopped on West Pearl may have squeaked its tires upon stopping, which could have drawn her attention to it. She said that she did not recall hearing any other noises.

On May 15, 1959, [REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that at approximately 11:00 PM, on April 24, 1959, she had observed from her front window a 1955 or 1956 Oldsmobile pass under one street light at the intersection of Pearl and Julia Streets. She said that this car was headed up Pearl Street toward her home. She said that the car was partially white and that she had not observed anything further concerning this car, other than its tail light and its rate of speed. She said that she was able to identify this car by the type of tail lights that it had.

12. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] college student at Pearl River Junior College, and a resident of Prentiss, Mississippi,

advised SA's [redacted], and [redacted] on May 12, 1959, that he had attended the dance at the college on the evening of April 24, 1959, and escorted [redacted]. He said that they departed the dance at its termination at approximately 11:00 PM and then drove to Pat's Drive-In Service Station for refreshments.

He said that they then drove back north on Route 11 to the intersection of Route 725 where he turned right and drove into Main Street where he headed south. He said that they drove one block south of the courthouse and then right toward the residence of [redacted]. He said that they arrived there at about 11:30 PM and as he was walking her to her doorstep she asked him if he had heard a scream or a screech. He replied that he did not hear anything. He said that he did not hear or see anything unusual en route to his home.

13. [redacted]

Miss [redacted] Poplarville, Mississippi, was interviewed on April 28, 1959, by SA's [redacted] and [redacted]. She is employed as a waitress at the [redacted] Poplarville, Mississippi. She stated that on April 24, 1959, she came to work at 5:00 PM and worked until 5:00 AM, April 25, 1959. It was her recollection that Mrs. [redacted] aka Mrs. [redacted] was working as a waitress until 10:00 PM, on April 24, 1959. Miss [redacted] stated it is customary that at 10:00 PM the doors to the cafe are locked and she then cleans up and begins preparation for breakfast, re-opening the cafe again at 11 AM. She stated it is customary for her to admit people to her after looking up in the event they desire coffee or tea. She said that it is customary for [redacted] Poplarville, Mississippi, to stop at the cafe shortly after 10:00 PM and order for coffee. She said he picks up mail at the depot and takes it to the depot for deposit on a train which leaves Poplarville at approximately 11:00 PM. She was quite certain that he had been in the store shortly after 10:00 on the night of April 24, 1959. She stated she was unable to recall whether anyone else had been in the store the night of April 24, 1959, but definitely recalled no strangers had been in the cafe.

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She stated that at an unknown time on the night of April 24, 1959, or early morning of April 25, 1959, she received a phone call at the cafe from a woman. This woman did not identify herself and [REDACTED] did not recognize her voice. The woman said, [REDACTED] said she knew the woman was referring to PETE CARVER, the Night Marshal, and she told the woman he was not there. She said she went to the door and looked out on the street and did not see any automobiles moving nor any persons on the street and did not see CARVER. She returned to the phone and advised the woman she could not see him and the woman said, "Tell him to come to the jail," and then hung up.

She said about fifteen to twenty minutes after receiving this phone call she went to the door of the cafe and stayed for a few minutes. She then saw a car coming down Main Street headed south. As it passed the cafe, it slowed down and she recognized PETE CARVER in the car. She said she believed someone was with him, but she could not see who it was nor how many were in. She said he stopped a short distance beyond the cafe and she called to him and told him she had received a call asking that he come to the jail. She said he then started up the car, but she did not observe which direction he drove and she went back inside the cafe immediately.

[REDACTED] said no one else came to the cafe after she had spoken to CARVER until [REDACTED] appeared at the door. She did not know the time that MEYER came to the cafe, but estimated it was not less than fifteen minutes or more than two hours after PETE CARVER left. She said she recognized MEYER and noted [REDACTED] come to the cafe at this hour. She answered MEYER and she a [REDACTED] call [REDACTED] in. When he came into the cafe, he [REDACTED] cup of coffee, which she served him. [REDACTED] something to the effect that "they were having [REDACTED] trouble at the jail" and that the "law" was [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said she asked him what kind of trouble [REDACTED] [REDACTED] effect "it looked like they were bringing [REDACTED] [REDACTED] She said he furnished no other information [REDACTED] [REDACTED]



question him further concerning this matter. She said he stayed at the cafe approximately five minutes and during that time they discussed the fact that he had brought his sister-in-law, a Mrs. [REDACTED] to the hospital. She said she had not seen or talked to JOHN REYER since that time. b2c

It was her recollection that, approximately one hour after JOHN REYER left, FRED CARVER, the Night Marshal, B. F. ORR, the Day Marshal, and A. J. CHAS came to the cafe for coffee. She said that ORR said something to her to the effect that "the wages that was to be tried has gotten out or has been taken out." She said that was her first information that the victim had been abducted from the county jail. She said there was no further conversation between her and any of the other men concerning the incident and she overheard no conversation on their part regarding this matter. It was her recollection that the above three men had come to the cafe at approximately 3:00 A. M., April 25, 1959.

She said she did not recall seeing any strangers at the cafe the night of April 24 or morning of April 25, 1959. She said she heard no unusual noises and saw no unusual activities during that period. She said there were no phone calls to the cafe or to whom she was mentioned above. She said she had no interest in this matter, but promised her cooperation in furnishing any information of value she might receive.



IV. LOCATION AND IDENTIFICATION  
OF MACK CHARLES PARSONS

On May 4, 1959, at 10:50 A. M., a body was located in a driftwood jam in the Pearl River one-half mile upstream from Richardson's Landing. The body was approximately fifty feet from the Mississippi bank of the Pearl River, the river being approximately 100 yards wide at that point. The body was first noticed by MSP Trooper [REDACTED] who was in a boat with SA [REDACTED] of the FBI, searching Pearl River. b7c

The body was facing upstream and only the right arm, shoulder and head protruded from the jam of driftwood. This location is approximately two and one-half miles south of the Highway 26 Bridge over the Pearl River.

Upon location of the body, Pearl River County Attorney WILLIAM H. STEWART was notified and, at his request, Justice of the Peace WALTER DAVIS, Gretna, Louisiana, was contacted and advised of the location of an unidentified body. DAVIS located persons to serve on the coroner's jury and proceeded to Richardson's Landing on the Pearl River. Following adjournment of the coroner's jury, the body was removed to Charity Hospital at Bogalusa, Louisiana, for the purpose of autopsy and identification.

Attached hereto are ten photographs taken by SA [REDACTED] of the location where the body was found and the removal of the body to Richardson's Landing. These photographs are described as follows: b7c

1. A view of the point where the pile of driftwood is located.
2. View downstream showing the location where the pile of driftwood is located.
3. The pile of driftwood where the body was located, taken from the Mississippi side of the river.

(4) A view of the pile of driftwood, taken about fifteen (15) feet upstream, showing the location of the body in the driftwood.

(5, 6 & 7) Views of the body being removed from the pile of driftwood.

(8) A view of the body hanging over the front end of the boat at Richardson's Landing showing the method by which the body was pulled back from the driftwood to the landing.

(9 & 10) Two views of the body after it was removed to the beach at the landing.

On May 4, 1959, SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], obtained ink fingerprints from fingers one through nine of the body at Charity Hospital, and no impression could be obtained from finger ten due to extensive decomposition. Comparison of these impressions was made with a known set of fingerprints from the Pearl River County Sheriff's Office of MACK CHARLES PARKER and they were found to be identical by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The Identification Division of the FBI confirmed this identification. b7c

In the presence of SA JOSEPH M. MEYERS, Jr. W. F. STRINGER, Poplarville, Mississippi, conducted an autopsy of MACK CHARLES PARKER in a small building at the rear of Charity Hospital, Bogalusa, Louisiana, from 9:00 PM to 10:55 PM on May 4, 1959, and advised of the following re

Dr. STRINGER advised there were no signs of a bullet hole or any penetrating marks in the skull and there were no visible fractures in the skull or neck. Dr. STRINGER advised that the skull was perfectly intact. The brain was completely degenerated.

Dr. STRINGER advised that the neck was not broken; however, the back of the neck was completely eaten away by maggots. A bruise of about four inches by eight inches was noted on the right shoulder blade by Dr. STRINGER, which he stated could have been caused by an injury. Dr. STRINGER further stated that this injury could have also extended into the back of the neck.

Dr. STRINGER advised further that there was a penetrating hole of one-fourth inch in diameter in the right chest, which made entrance in the lower border of the fifth rib and this hole corresponded to a one-half inch hole at the lower level of the tenth rib. A one-eighth inch hole was probed by Dr. STRINGER in the back of the body between the shoulder blades. Dr. STRINGER stated that this hole was one-fourth inch in diameter and appeared to have what looked like powder burns around the paravertebral area. This hole went through the left auricle of the heart and out through the front breast bone, although the bones were broken. At the exit this hole was approximately one-half inch in diameter.

The tenth rib on the left side of the body had, according to Dr. STRINGER, what appeared to be a chipped place, which he believed could have been caused by a ricochetting foreign body. Part of this rib was removed from the body by Dr. STRINGER and it appeared to have a fracture.

Dr. STRINGER stated that the lungs did not appear to have any water in them, although this would have to be definitely determined by the pathologist. Dr. STRINGER stated that the lungs appeared to have only air and no blood.

Dr. STRINGER also stated that, if the deceased had drowned, the lungs would have been waterlogged.

Dr. STRINGER further stated that the deceased's female genitalia was intact.

Dr. STRINGER stated that the following parts of the deceased body were examined by pathologists:

1. Skin from entrance and exit holes.
2. Lungs and heart.
3. Part of the tenth rib.
4. Skin from the right shoulder blade.

Dr. STRINGER stated that, in view of the one-fourth inch hole in the left auricle of the heart and the blood in the chest cavity, it was his opinion that death was caused by a penetration in the left auricle of the heart. Dr. STRINGER added that, because of decomposition, there was no way to definitely determine whether victim was beaten.

Dr. STRINGER also added that it appeared that, in view of the lack of water in the lungs, death probably took place prior to the body going into the water. Dr. STRINGER stated that he could not determine from the decomposition of the body exactly how long it had been in the water, but the body had been in the water for some time.

Dr. STRINGER stated that he had probed considerably in the body, but was unable to locate any bullets or fragments of bullets.

The records of the Department of Defense, Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, reflect that the blood type of JACK CHARLES PARKER, Serial Number RA 14499151, is "O."

On May 5, 1969, the Coroner's Jury, Poplarville, Mississippi, found that the body was that of PARKER and death was caused by wounds made by two one-fourth inch diameter projectiles at the hands of person or persons unknown.

The following is copy of affidavit prepared by Dr. W. F. STRINGER regarding the body as furnished by County Attorney WILLIAM H. BARNETT:

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13 "STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
14 COUNTY OF PEARL RIVER  
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16 AFFIDAVIT  
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18 "This day personally appeared before me,  
19 the undersigned authority, in and for the aforesaid juris-  
20 diction, Dr. W. F. STRINGER, M. D., personally known to me,  
21 who after having been duly sworn by me deposes and says  
22 that he is a duly licensed and practicing Doctor of Medi-  
23 cine in the State of Mississippi and that on May 4, pursuant  
24 to an order issued by Judge WALTER E. DAVIS, acting coroner,  
25 he performed an autopsy on a male body which was found on  
26 said date and that his findings were as follows:  
27

28 "General: This is the body of an adult colored  
29 male in a bad state of decomposition. Fly larvae are cover-  
30 ing the head and neck. The tissues of the neck and face  
31 in such a state of decomposition and partial digestion by the  
32 maggots that none of the facial characteristics are identi-  
33 fiable. There is a large area over the left shoulder,  
34 posteriorly, which appears to be roughened. This merges into  
35 the maggot infested area back of the neck. Possibly the  
36 superficial layers of the epidermis are missing. There are  
37 two quarter-inch circular openings in the anterior chest  
38 wall: one located in the fifth intercostal space just to  
39 the right of the sternum; the other located in the end inter-  
40 costal space just to the right of the sternum. Posteriorly  
41 on the chest wall there are two circular openings approxi-  
42 mately one-quarter inch in diameter. Back of these areas  
43 are surrounded by a blackened area approximately one-half  
44 inch thick. A superior opening is found just to the  
45 left of the vertebral column, but medial to the scapula.  
46 An inferior opening is located near the posterior axillary  
47 line at the level of the 5th or 6th rib. There are no  
48 other marks of identification or of injury on the body. The  
49 body is clad in shorts and undershirt.  
50

51 "Skull: The tissues covering the skull are  
52 retracted easily. There is no evidence of any fracture or  
53 other injury to the cranium.  
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12 "Neck: The soft tissues of the neck are  
13 badly disfigured by the fly larvae. The cervical verte-  
14 brae are freely moveable and there is no evidence of  
15 fracture or displacement.

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17 "Description of the course of the circular  
18 openings which resemble a wound made by quarter-inch,  
19 high-speed projectiles.

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21 "Anterior superior wound left a course of  
22 tissue injury from the skin through the left auricle of  
23 the heart making an exit at the level of the 4th rib  
24 posteriorly to the right of the vertebral column but  
25 medial to the scapula. The inferior wound made a pene-  
26 trating course from the 5th intercostal space to the  
27 right of the sternum to the posterior portion of the 10th  
28 rib. There is a groove in the superior border of this  
29 rib. No points of entrance or exit are established from  
30 the gross specimens of the heart and lungs along the course  
31 of the supposed inferior foreign body penetration.

32  
33 "As the chest cavity was opened the heart was  
34 found to be flabby, and apparently partially collapsed. The  
35 lungs are collapsed and darkly discolored. Both sides of  
36 the chest cavity contain approximately 500 cc of dark  
37 unclotted blood. No clots are noted. No perforation of  
38 the diaphragm is detected. There are some fine granular  
39 crystals of uniform size in the fluid of the chest cavity.  
40 The specific gravity of these was greater than that of the  
41 fluid. The crystals have the appearance of coarse sand.  
42 No fragments or pieces of any other foreign body are  
43 identified.

44  
45 "Abdominal cavity: On opening of the ab-  
46 dominal cavity no fluid is detected. This cavity  
47 was explored no further.

48  
49 "On phone conversation with Dr. J. H. DICKSON  
50 permission to release the following was obtained:  
51 lungs showed no evidence of fluid. There was no evidence of  
52 injury in the left auricle and of the pulmonary artery. The  
53 are believed to be incompatible with life.



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12 "SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 5th  
13 day of May, A. D., 1959.  
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"My Commission Expires  
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On May 11, 1959, Dr. W. F. SPURLOCK, Poplarville, Mississippi, provided a copy of "Report of Autopsy Examination" submitted to him by [REDACTED], Pathologist, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, which report is dated May 9, 1959: b7c

"AUTOPSY

"GROSS: Material labeled 'Small lower chest, right, anterior' consists of a fragment of skin and underlying tissue, measuring 4.5 cm. in diameter, the epithelium black with brownish thick discolored areas surrounding a 0.4 cm. defect in the central portion which leads into the underlying tissue, the edges of this defect grayish and friable. Material labeled A, and representative portions embedded.

"Material labeled 'Small upper anterior chest' consists of a roughly rectangular fragment of black skin and some underlying tissue, specimen measuring 7.0 x 4.0 cm., the epithelial surface rather stiff and leathery, the central portion having a 0.5 cm. round defect through which a probe is passed. The edges of this defect are also ragged and friable. Representative portion embedded.

"Specimen labeled 'Small lower anterior chest' consists of an oblong fragment of skin and underlying tissue, measuring 7.0 cm. long, up to 4.0 cm. wide and 4.0 cm. thick, the epithelial surface rather leathery, partially discolored at one end. There is a defect in the skin of the form of a penetrating injury 0.3 cm. in diameter, the epithelium

"surrounding this partially denuded, the total defect so denuded approximately 1.0 cm. in diameter. Representative portion embedded, material labeled C.

"Material labeled 'skin from left shoulder, posterior' consists of an irregular shaped mass of leathery, partially decomposed tissue measuring approximately 10.0 x 7.0 cm., the epithelial surface not recognizable except that it contrasts with the underlying muscle and subcutaneous tissue. There is cystic change beneath the ragged surface. Representative portion embedded and material labeled D.

"Specimen labeled 'rib from anterior chest, upper wound' consists of the cartilaginous portion of a rib, the structure being 5.0 cm. long, showing the usual architecture, cut surface showing calcification in the perichondrium, in some areas the structure surrounded by rubbery, partially decomposed muscle showing a dark area of discoloration. This area does not penetrate the cartilaginous portion of the rib. Representative portion embedded.

"Received separately are heart and lungs, the lungs badly decomposed, containing many small cystic areas and blebs, these most probably secondary to gas forming bacilli. No gross lesions of the lungs could be made out.

"There is a defect in the anterior portion of the pulmonary artery in the form of a penetrating injury, the hole approximately 0.4 to 0.5 cm. in diameter, the edges ragged. This passes backwards and the opposite side of the pulmonary artery has a much larger hole. The defect is located above the left auricle, penetrates the auricle above the aortic ring, extends toward the posterior portion and destroying a good portion of the inter-auricular septum; enters the left ventricle just above the aortic ring and leaves the left ventricle just below the large branch of the left coronary artery. The defect here is approximately 0.4 cm. in diameter.

"Also received by mail 7/23/43 is a segment of bone and attached muscle labeled 'section of both ribs'.

"This is a segment of rib approximately 10.0 cm. long and of the usual architecture. In the near central portion there is a defect on the edge of the rib resulting in a slight groove and a splintering on the posterior or inner surface such as would be left by a projectile coming from the outside and 'nicking' the rib. The marrow cavity does not appear to have been entered. Only the cortical bone is involved. No sections taken.

"MICROSCOPIC: Sections of specimen A ('wound lower chest right') show a centrally located penetrating injury, the configuration of the fibers indicating that it is a wound of entrance. Cellular detail is obscured by necrosis of tissue. There are numerous foreign particles in the deeper portions of the track, some having the appearance of pollen or diatoms, some dark brown wavy fibrils and some clear crystalline fragments. There is a 'contact zone' involving the overlying skin.

"Sections of specimen B show similar findings, again a wound of entrance with less foreign material, only brownish granular amorphous material being present.

"Sections of specimen C, indicate a wound of exit on the basis of the distortion of the fibers. Preservation is poor, there is much foreign material including parts of insects.

"Sections of specimen D also show a track though it is less clear cut. Subcutaneous tissue is pushed upwards and the lesion is interpreted as a wound of exit.

"Sections of the anterior portion of the puma show a wound of entrance on the basis of the distortion of the fibers.

"SUMMARY: Material expressed from the peripheral portions of the lungs contained no organic matter. Specimens from the anterior portion of the lungs were interpreted as containing wounds of entrance, those from the posterior as containing wounds of exit. The state of decomposition of the lungs was such that no wounds could

be identified. The character and alignment of the holes in the pulmonary artery and heart were such that it is interpreted that they were all made by the same missile and the appearance of the wounds make it unlikely that they were caused by a sharp instrument that was later withdrawn. The defect in the rib, said to be approximately 1 1/2 in. rib, would indicate that the path of projectile was from below upwards and the missile most probably left the body through the defect in the left shoulder.

"Since the defects in the pulmonary artery and heart are not compatible with life for more than a few minutes and no organic matter or other foreign material could be expressed from the peripheral portion of the heart, my opinion is that death resulted from the defects in the pulmonary artery and heart and that they were made by a missile that passed through the body."

On May 11, 1959 AM [REDACTED] b7c  
cussed the above report with Dr. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said the report was complete, except that the [REDACTED] did not mention one specimen sent to him, but he [REDACTED] the exit point of the lower of the two bullets. [REDACTED] that material labeled "A" in the report [REDACTED] lying tissue taken from the front of the [REDACTED] wound in the lower chest. Portions of this [REDACTED] indicating a penetrating injury with entrance [REDACTED] front that nicked the torn rib on the [REDACTED] This wound did not go below the diaphragm and [REDACTED] at a slight angle to exit at the back. [REDACTED] numerous foreign particles in the [REDACTED] track, some having the appearance of [REDACTED] (small, microscopic high having a wall of [REDACTED] way fibrous and some [REDACTED] STRIMMER suggested [REDACTED] residue or matter that [REDACTED] placed in the water.

He advised specimens [REDACTED] and tissue from the front of the body [REDACTED] In line with this entrance wound [REDACTED]

the artery going to the lung, with a larger hole in the back side of this artery, showing that the entrance was from the front. This track then passes through the left upper chamber of the heart above the mitral valve and exits just below the large branch of the left coronary artery after destroying a good portion of the septum (section of heart dividing the left and right portions of the heart). The exit wound through the back indicated a direct path as set out above. There was less foreign matter in this wound with only brownish granular amorphous material being present.

This upper wound could not have been made by a sharp instrument that was withdrawn because the fibers of the track all showed passage of a missile from front to back. This one wound would have caused death in a very few minutes, and the finding was that death resulted from defects in the pulmonary artery and heart and that these defects were caused by a missile that passed through the body.

Dr. STRINGER said it was his opinion that the two wounds were caused by high-speed projectiles, probably jacketed bullets, fired from a rifle or target-type pistol. These exited from the body in only slightly larger wounds than the point of entry and they could have caused very little bleeding. An ordinary lead bullet would have expanded on passing through the body and would have left large exit wounds entirely different from those in the body.

Dr. STRINGER also said it was his opinion that both wounds ranged upward slightly. Their position in the body indicated that they were made while the victim was prone with the person doing the shooting standing at the feet of the victim, but he said this was only an opinion and that there might be some circumstances that would have caused the same missile path.

The following sketch was made from one prepared by Dr. STRINGER to show the relative positions of the entrance and exit wounds:

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V. KNOWN AND SUSPECTED PARTICIPANTS  
IN THE ASSAULT ON MARTIN LUTHER  
LUTHER KING, JR.  
PARKER FROM THE PEARL RIVER COUNTY  
JAIL, POPLARVILLE, MISSISSIPPI.

A. NAME CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER,  
also known as Criss Columbus  
Reyer, Crip.

RESIDENCE RFD, McNeill, Mississippi

OCCUPATION Farmer and part-time barber

AGE 43

HAROLD PIERRE CARVER, also known as Pete  
Carver, Night Marshal, Poplarville, Mississippi, advised  
SA's [redacted] and [redacted] on May  
6, 1968, that a man known to him as "Crip" [redacted] owned a  
red Oldsmobile "60" which was used as the getaway car.  
He advised that his reason for believing that the car of  
REYER was used was the fact that "Crip" [redacted] came to  
him at the Amoco Service Station north of Poplarville at  
approximately midnight on the night of April 24, 1968,  
and called to him, after which REYER talked to him for  
approximately five or ten minutes. CARVER said that this  
occurred as he, B. F. ORR, R. J. WHEAT, and [redacted]  
[redacted] were leaving the Amoco Service Station after  
they had had coffee and were en route downtown. CARVER  
was of the opinion that REYER had detained him in order  
to [redacted] not get to the vicinity of the Pearl River  
County Jail during the time of REYER's abduction. He  
pointed out that this incident occurred at what he believed  
to be the exact time that PARKER was taken from  
the jail. He further pointed out that the statement previously  
furnished regarding his car stalling and being  
starting was not true and that he had actually been delayed  
by "Crip" REYER.

b7c

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13 **CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REYER, McNeill**

14 Mississippi was contacted by SA's [REDACTED]  
15 and [REDACTED] on May 7, 1969. At the time of  
16 that interview, REYER claimed that on the night of April  
17 24, 1969, he went to Poplarville with [REDACTED] SHIPPI to  
18 see a cattle dealer known as [REDACTED]. Upon not  
19 finding him, he went to the [REDACTED] stayed in  
20 Poplarville for a short while and then returned to his  
21 home in McNeill about 10:30 PM. He denied having been  
22 in Poplarville about midnight on the night of April 24,  
23 1969.  
24

25 At this time, REYER admitted he is the  
26 owner of a 1957 Oldsmobile "38", bearing 1969 Mississippi  
27 license 728-358. He consented to an examination of this  
28 automobile by Agents of the FBI and without being asked  
29 said that there would possibly be blood in the car from a  
30 lasso used in the handling of cattle. Upon being further  
31 questioned regarding the car without mention of the blood,  
32 he stated that in addition there would possibly be blood  
33 in the car from game chickens which he had carried to  
34 New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 3, 1969. When asked why  
35 he was volunteering information regarding blood which  
36 would be found in his car and which had not been asked for  
37 or mentioned by the Agents, he replied that it was his  
38 understanding that Agents of the FBI were looking for  
39 automobiles in and about Poplarville with blood in them  
40 and he merely wanted to explain why there was possibly  
41 blood in the back of his car. When asked if it  
42 was possible to distinguish between animal blood and human  
43 blood he then said that it was possible that he had cut  
44 himself while handling cattle. He exhibited two finger  
45 marks on his right hand and pointed to  
46 a place at the base of the ring finger as being the place  
47 he had been cut.  
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49 A preliminary examination of the vehicle was  
50 made on May 7, 1969, and the car was placed under  
51 physical surveillance until the morning of May 8, 1969.  
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On May 8, 1959, the 1957 Oldsmobile, bearing Mississippi tag 723-358, was inspected by SA [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED], dusted for latent fingerprints and the following latents were located and lifts were made:

- (1) Two latents located and lifts prepared on rear license plate.
- (2) Numerous latents located and lifts prepared from back of rear-view mirror.

Photographs were made of the latents.

On May 14, 1959, the latent fingerprint Section of the Identification Division of the FBI advised that two latent fingerprints of value appeared on the lifts and in the film negatives described as being from the license plate of the 1957 Oldsmobile of C. C. RYER. Two latent fingerprints and one fingertip impression appeared on lifts and in negatives described as being from the rear-view mirror. The two latent fingerprints described as being from the license plate were found identical with the right index and middle fingerprints of RYER. One fingertip impression described as being from the rear-view mirror is identical with the right little fingerprint of RYER. Two latent fingerprints from the rear-view mirror remain unidentified.

On May 8, 1959, an FBI Laboratory Examiner examined the 1957 Oldsmobile of C. C. RYER by RYER's home at McNeill, Mississippi, and removed the following from the automobile:

- (1) Scrapings from right rear door
- (2) [REDACTED] from left rear door panel.
- (3) Scrapings from back of rear seat.
- (4) Scrapings from left portion of rear seat.
- (5) Scrapings from left middle portion of rear seat.

- (6) Scrapings from right middle portion of rear seat.  
(7) Scrapings from left side of rear seat.  
(8) Scrapings from right side of rear seat.  
(9) Pieces of matting from under left side of rear floor mat.  
(10) Pieces of matting from under right side of rear floor mat.  
(11) Rope from trunk.  
(12) Sweepings from right portion of rear floor mat.  
(13) Sweepings from left portion of rear floor mat.  
(14) Sweepings from front floor mat.  
(15) Debris from rear seat.  
(16) Hairs from trunk.

On May 13, 1959, the FBI Laboratory advised that Specimens 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 were found to consist of human blood. The amount of blood present in these specimens was insufficient for grouping purposes. Blood stains of bovine origin were identified on Item 11 from the trunk of the car. A black Negroid head hair was found in Item 12 but is dissimilar in microscopic characteristics to the known head hairs from PARKER. Numerous light brown Caucasian head hairs were found in Items 12 through 14 and in Item 15. Numerous beef hairs were adhering to the rope, Item 11. No human hairs were found on the rope. The hairs in Item 13 from the trunk are of beef origin.

On May 7, 1959, LENA MAE CRISS, McComb, Mississippi, was interviewed at Picayune, Mississippi, by SA [REDACTED]. She stated that at about 7:00 AM on Friday, April 24, 1959, her husband left their home, which is some four miles west of McComb, Mississippi, and was to go to the barber shop which CRISS REYER operates on a part-time basis at McComb, Mississippi. CRISS REYER did not return home until about 3:00 PM, on Friday evening, April 24, 1959, and there was no one with him when he came home. He was driving a Chevrolet pickup truck when he arrived home. When CRISS arrived home,

[REDACTED], and Mrs. REYER were at the REYER residence and were watching television but she could not recall what television program was on. CRISS informed her that he had been to Poplarville before he came home that evening. b7c

LENA MAE REYER stated that her husband, CRISS REYER, did not leave home again after around eight o'clock during the entire night. She slept with her husband that night and she is positive he did not leave the house. Her husband went to bed about 11:00 or 11:15 PM, which was before she and the rest of the family went to bed. The only people who have ever had possession and driven the 1957 Oldsmobile which is owned by the REYER family are [REDACTED] and CRISS REYER. There are only two sets of keys for this car and one set of the keys belongs to CRISS REYER and the other to [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] advised SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on May 7, 1959, that she and her husband spent the night of April 24, 1959, with her mother and step-father at McNeill, Mississippi. She and her husband arrived at the home of "Crip" REYER sometime between 7:00 and 8:00 PM on April 24, 1959, at which time her mother and her sister were the only ones at the house. She advised that her step-father arrived home at approximately 8:30 or 9:00 PM on April 24, 1959, had supper and thereafter drove to Poplarville, Mississippi, to see about some cattle. He returned home about 10:30 PM on that night and on this occasion he was accompanied by ARTHUR SMITH who remained at the house when REYER came into the house, but that REYER, after talking with SMITH to his home, returned to his residence and did not leave again that night. b7c

REYER was reinterviewed on May 11, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], at which time he advised that his statement was true in the abduction of FARMER. He was reinterviewed on May 11, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and on May 12, 1959, by SA's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and on May 14, 1959, furnished the following signed statement: b7c



"Poplarville, Mississippi  
"May 14, 1959

"I, Christopher Columbus Meyer, make the following statement freely and voluntarily to Special Agents [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] b7c [REDACTED] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been told that I do not have to make a statement and any statement made by me can be used against me in a court of law. I have also been advised that I have the right to talk with an attorney but do not desire one at this time. No threats or promises have been made to me to get me to make this statement. I have been advised that any false information given by me with regard to this matter to the above Agents can be used as basis for prosecution against me under Title 18 Section 1001 US Code.

"I was born January 10, 1914, Lamar County, Mississippi. I have a high school education.

"On April 24, 1959 I closed my barber shop at McNeill, Mississippi at about 8:30 P. M. Arthur Smith was waiting for me and we had a cup of coffee at Pat's store in McNeill, Miss.

"I wish to state that shortly after noon on April 24, 1959 Francis Barker came to my barber shop and I shaved him. At this time Barker told me that there was going to be a meeting on Virginia road East of Poplarville, that night concerning Barker who was in jail at Poplarville. Barker then asked me if I wanted to go and gave me directions to the meeting place. He told me to cross Wolf Creek and turn one mile and turn left on a crooked road which would be a good road and the first house on the right. I didn't care particularly about going. I did not tell Barker and he did not tell me at this time the names of anybody who was to be at this meeting. I had no further discussion with Barker at this time regarding the meeting.